The Pittsburgh Gazette.

ESTABLISHED JULY 12, 1786. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1875. VOL. 89.—NO. 306.

SECOND EDITION

FOREIGN ADVICES.

Additional Suez Canal Shares for Sale.

"Boss" Tweed Said to Have Been Seen in Havana.

THE INSURRECTION IN KHOKAND.

The Sultan of Turkey Arming.

A Conspiracy Against Christians Discovered.

TURKEY.

The Proposed Reforms.

BERLIN, December 23.—It is stated that the principal feature of the great powers' proposition relative to reforms in Turkey is that the Ambassadors of neutral powers at Constantinople shall have permanent control in the execution of the reforms in the provinces.

The Sultan Arming.

VIENNA, December 23.—The *Political Correspondence* reports the Sultan spending all his available money in hastily arming forces on sea and land. Ships and cannon have been ordered.

Conspiracy Against Christians.

A conspiracy against the Christians in Turkey has been discovered, and thirty-six Turks implicated have been arrested.

A Montenegrin Loan.

LONDON, December 24.—A Berlin dispatch to the *Times* says the Prince of Montenegro has concluded negotiations for a loan of one million dollars, which the Slavonians believe is guaranteed by Russia. It is also reported that an American agent at Cettigne has engaged to supply the Prince with cannon and rifles.

The Montenegrin *Official Journal* publishes an article warmly praising the insurgents in Herzegovina.

The *Times'* correspondent remarks that the only explanation of the attitude of Monenegro is that the Government has been led to hope it will shortly be allowed to interfere.

FRANCE.

Assembly Proceedings.

PARIS, December 23.—In the Assembly to-day the Electoral Districts bill was under consideration. An amendment, prepared by the Government, was adopted, by which Paris will retain to the Lower Chamber twenty Deputies, instead of twenty-five, and Lyons six instead of eight, as at present. This reduction is effected by apportioning one Deputy to each 100,000 of population in those cities, instead of one Deputy to each arrondissement containing under 100,000 inhabitants, and two Deputies to arrondissements containing more than 100,000, as in the rest of France. The Left are indignant over the introduction and adoption of the amendment.

SPAIN.

The Rebellion in Cuba.

MADRID, December 23.—The *Epoca* says when the Carlist insurrection is suppressed, an efficient army will be maintained in Cuba as a measure of precaution and that heavy guns will be placed on the coast. At the same time Spain will propose to the United States a new and mutually advantageous treaty of commerce. Subscriptions have already been opened to defray the cost of manufacturing heavy guns for the defense of Cuba.

RUSSIA.

The Insurrection in Khokand.

LONDON, December 23.—The *Invalide Russe* states that the emissaries from Khokand had incited the tribes subject to Russia in the neighborhood of Urapete Toorkistan to revolt. The Russian troops attacked them and were at first repulsed, but subsequently obtained a victory. Three hundred insurgents were killed in one engagement. The insurrection is now suspended.

EGYPT.

The Suez Canal.

CAIRO, December 23.—It is rumored that the Khedive is negotiating for the sale of Egypt's founders' shares in the Suez canal. The Government of Great Britain and M. De Lesseps, representing a combination of French capital, are bidders. The latter has offered $9,000,000 for the shares.

CUBA.

"Boss" Tweed.

HAVANA, December 23.—A report is current that Wm. M. Tweed arrived here last Tuesday on a schooner. Several New Yorkers who knew him by sight say they saw him yesterday and to-day in different parts of the city.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Political.

LONDON, December 23.—The Gordon elected to Parliament yesterday was Sir Alexander Gordon, Conservative, for East Aberdeenshire, not Lord Advocate Gordon for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities.

INDIA.

The Revolution in Malacca.

SINGAPORE, December 23.—The British troops in Malacca have arrived before Kintap, where the Maharjahs, Ismail and Lela oppose them with considerable force. Gen. Colborne has asked for reinforcements.

A NEW DODGE.

Prisoners in the Louisville Jail Attempt to Escape by Setting Fire to Their Cell—Several of Them Almost Smothered to Death.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 23.—A number of prisoners confined in the city jail made an attempt to escape this morning. Several negroes who were confined in the rear part of the building had been committing depredations by breaking window glass, furniture, &c., and behaving badly in a general way. Last night several of them were placed in a cell by themselves, and all went quietly until about four o'clock this morning, when a loud howl was raised. Upon repairing to the scene the turnkey discovered that the rascals had set fire to the mattresses on which they had slept, with the evident purpose of making their escape by overpowering the jail official when he should open the door to let them out. The bedding burned rapidly, and in a few seconds the cell was dense with smoke and flame, almost suffocating those within. The attendant obtained assistance as soon as possible and rescued the negroes from their perilous position, but not until some of them were almost strangled to death with smoke. Some of the men were unable to stand when rescued, and a few minutes more would have settled their deaths. The prisoners, when taken away from the fire, were very willing to be locked up anywhere, and made no effort to escape.

A GUILTY CONSCIENCE.

An Incendiary Confesses to Setting Fire to a Planing Mill in Dunkirk, N. Y.

CHICAGO, December 23.—On the 13th of this month a man giving the name of Thos. Carroll, of Dunkirk, N. Y., confessed to officers here that in June, 1874, he set fire to Vanderwort's planing mill in Dunkirk. The mill was entirely destroyed and the watchman, McCarthy, so badly burned that he died shortly after. Carroll fled, and has been here for some time. When he confessed he was put in jail here and examined by a physician, who pronounced him sane. The authorities at Dunkirk were telegraphed the state of the case, and substantiated the story of Carroll, whom they have sent for. He will accordingly leave for Dunkirk to-night in company with the Sheriff of that place. He has made two attempts to commit suicide since he was imprisoned.

A TEST CASE.

Subscribers to Bonds for the Construction of a Railway Compelled to Pay.

ST. PAUL, MINN., December 23.—This afternoon, in the United States Circuit Court, before Judge Dillon, a verdict was rendered in the test case against Thomas Simpson, of Winona, for all that was claimed in the suit of the Green Bay & Minnesota Railway Company against the citizens of Winona. The suit is one of a class involving $35,000, against the citizens of Winona, who subscribed to bonds in favor of the Green Bay Railway Company, and afterwards attempted to evade payment on the ground that the railway had not complied with the agreement. The verdict of the jury is that the railway company can recover $35,000, with interest, from various wealthy citizens of Winona, and also that the defendants had no legal defence for their attempted repudiation.

Marine News.

QUEENSTOWN, December 23.—Arrived—The steamship Dakota, from New York.

PORTLAND, ME., December 23.—Arrived—The steamer Scandinavian, from Liverpool.

NEW YORK.

The Railway Freight Rate Question.

The Trial of Bowen's Libel Suit Concluded.

NEW YORK, December 23, 1875.

The Freight Rate Question.

The *Evening Post* says the committee representing the merchants of this city in the matter of freight rates which has lately excited so much attention, had a conference this moring with Vice President William H. Vanderbilt, of the New York Central Railroad. William E. Dodge, Chairman, said that while they were now met to thank the railroad for what they had done in the matter, they wished to have it distinctly understood that they had no sympathy with the low prices which the railroad had been obliged to adopt. They would have been more gratified if Boston rates had been raised. It was for the interest of the merchants that the railroad should secure a fair compensation in order that the latter might pay reasonable dividends, and be able to expend the money for the improvement of their facilities.

Mr. Vanderbilt thanked the merchants for their expressions of good feeling, and then read a letter from Col. Scott, of the Pennsylvania Road, giving the accomplished settlement of rates as the reason for his non-attendance at this conference. He supposed the absence of Mr. Blanchard, of the Erie Road, was due to the same reason.

Jury in Tweed's Case.

The names of the Tweed "struck" jury, twenty-four in number, are as follows: Messrs. George A. Beard, Abner W. Colgate, John J. Cisco, Samuel D. Davis, Wm. P. Douglass, Amos Reno, Jos. S. Lowrey, John H. Caswell, Ezra M. Kingsley, Richard Arnold, Charles Collins, Robert K. Davis, John Taylor Johnston, Emil Oberman, Julius W. Catlin, Levi P. Morton, Gordon Norrie, Arthur J. Peabody, Geo. Ward, Francis B. Thurber, Anson G. P. Stokes, Robert Lennox Kennedy and P. Hall.

Bowen's Libel Suit.

The trial of Henry C. Bowen against the Brooklyn *Eagle* for $100,000 damages for libel was concluded this evening. Mr. Beach, counsel for the defence, occupied up to 2:30 in his summing up, and Mr. Fullerton, for the plaintiff, spoke until 5 o'clock. Judge Reynolds then charged the jury in a fifteen minute address, and informed them that they might bring in a sealed verdict.

MOODY AND SANKEY.

A Sermon on the Subject of Prayer.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The services at the prayer meeting of Moody and Sankey were well attended to-day. After singing and prayer Mr. Moody addressed the congregation on the subject of Prayer, stating that we must ask in our prayers in Christ's name and for His sake, and not our own. The speaker quoted the text where Christ promised His disciples that what they asked of the Father "in my name He will give it thee," and remarked that in prayer that injunction should be followed. Furthermore, prayer should be for the glory of God, and not our own. Many a mother makes prayers for her son, not for the glory of God, but that she may have more peace at home. The speaker, after enforcing these ideas in a variety of ways, concluded by a strong appeal to the congregation relative to the high importance of prayer and the necessity of its conditions enumerated above. The congregation then sang "Guide Me, Oh, Thou Great Jehovah," and after prayer were dismissed.

The services to-night had special reference to the Christmas season, it having been determined to hold no meeting to-morrow or Saturday evening. About 8,000 persons were present. There was no perceptible falling off in the interest. Mr. Moody read from the second chapter of Luke the story of Bethlehem. Mr. Sankey sang impressively "Ninety and Nine," after which Mr. Moody delivered the discourse, his text being taken from the tenth verse of the chapter above referred to, "For behold I bring you good tidings of great joy." He preached a very effective sermon, urging upon his hearers the necessity of a belief in these tidings and the acceptance of the great Christmas gift given by God in the person of His only son, the Savior. The inquiry rooms after the meeting were unusually well filled.

THE SONORA REVOLUTION.

Indians in Revolt—A Special Tax Levied to Carry on the War—Business Prostrated—Banditti Threaten Revenge—The Revolutionists in Possession of the Capital of Lower California.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 23.—A dispatch from San Diego confirms the reports of anarchy in Sonora. A revolution is in progress in Yoqui. The Indians are in revolt. Gov. Pesquiera has levied a special tax to carry on the war. The revolutionary party is reported about to invade Sinaloa. Business is prostrated. No further demonstrations have been made by the banditti at Campo. The presence of a posse from San Diego keeps them temporarily quiet, but they threaten revenge for the shooting and hanging of their comrades in the recent raid. Cruz Lopez is in command since the death of Chavez. The Mexicans on the border, with a few exceptions, are in league with the banditti. A cavalry company will leave here to-morrow for San Diego.

A dispatch from San Diego says a courier arrived from San Rafael, the capital of Lower California, reporting that the revolutionists had attacked the place, killed Governor Villagerans and twenty-nine others, and had possession of everything. The report needs confirmation, but is considered highly probable with those familiar with affairs in the country.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.

A Slight Shock in Washington—Windows and Houses Jarred in Gordonsville, Va.—The Agitation General in Virginia.

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1875.

Between eleven and twelve o'clock last night a shock of earthquake was sensibly felt in South Washington.

A dispatch from Gordonsville, Virginia, to-day, says there was a heavy shock of earthquake there last night at 11:50. It jarred windows and houses, and lasted fully three seconds.

RICHMOND, December 23.—The shocks of earthquake last night were felt along the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad as far as Staunton, one hundred and thirty miles northwest of Richmond, also along the line of the Richmond & Danville Railroad to the southern border of the State. No damage is reported.

THE BOSTON EXPLOSION.

The Bodies of Two More Victims Recovered.

BOSTON, December 23.—The bodies of two more victims of the explosion last night were recovered from the water to-day—Jno. Kells and George Elwell.

Proposed Carnival in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 23.—A large meeting of citizens was held at the city building to-night, and initiatory steps taken for a grand celebration of the inaugural of the Centennial year on New Year's eve at midnight. It is proposed to celebrate the event by illuminations, ringing of all the bells in the city, firing of cannon, and a grand military and civic procession through the principal streets. Mayor Johnson was requested by the meeting to issue a proclamation inviting all citizens to participate in the carnival. Great interest was manifested, and the meeting adjourned until next Tuesday evening, when arrangements for the event will be perfected.

Indicted for Betting on an Election.

LOUISVILLE, December 23.—The Grand Jury of the City Court has been investigating bets on the late election, and thus far has returned ten indictments, two of which are against members of the City Council. Betting on the late election was very much indulged in prior to the voting day. Some made bets of as much as $10,000. According to the laws of the State all money won in betting on elections shall be confiscated by the authorities for the benefit of the school fund and the betters sentenced to fines.

Freight Rates from Philadelphia to the West.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The following are the reduced freight rates from Philadelphia, which went into effect on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad to-day: To Chicago, first class, 27 cents; second, 23; third, 18; fourth, 18; fifth, 14. To St. Louis, first class, 38 cents; second, 32; third, 26; fourth, 26; fifth, 21. To Cincinnati, first class, 27 cents; second, 23; third, 18; fourth, 18; fifth, 14. The reduction is about fifty per cent.

Inspection of Pennsylvania Militia.

HARRISBURG, PA., December 23.—An order issued by Adjutant General Latta announces that the general inspection of the militia of this State will take place during the months of April and May next year, instead of in the fall.

THE LATEST NEWS.

Condensed Telegrams from All Quarters.

—The Prince of Wales landed at Calcutta on Thursday, and had a magnificent reception.

—Harvard College has accepted Yale's challenge for an eight-oared, coxswain, four mile race.

—Attorney General Pierrepont says the President does not favor the pardoning of Joyce, convicted in St. Louis.

—Speaker Kerr left Washington for Philadelphia on Thursday, where he will remain until after the Christmas holiday.

—The Trustees of Princeton College sustain the faculty in their action against secret societies, and refuse to change the law.

—Frank Hartman, an Indianapolis painter, was instantly killed by the breaking and fall of a scaffold on which he was at work.

—J. Faebro, a well known timber inspector of Ascoda, Mich., committed suicide on Thursday with a pistol. No cause is known for the act.

—Jno. Brugger & Son, stocking manufacturers at Manchester, N. H., are reported failed. The liabilities are said to be $100,000, and the assets $20,000.

—A. W. Hubbard, H. E. Edwards and Geo. W. Malone, counterfeiters, were sentenced in the United States District Court at St. Louis to five years in the penitentiary.

—Alphonso Pene, a colored roustabout on the steamer Fannie Lewis, was shot at Cairo on Thursday by another negro, who escaped after the shooting. The trouble was over a game at cards. Pene's wounds are dangerous.

—Under instructions from Judge Knight, of the Circuit Court, in St. Louis, Chief of Police McDonough notified the managers of the Missouri State Lottery that no further selling of tickets or drawings would be permitted.

—Mr. William C. Black, lately elected Treasurer of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, was on Thursday elected President, and John Phelps, a former President, was elected Treasurer. Mr. Black resigned. There was no other name before the Exchange for President.

—The committee to examine into the affairs of the Providence (R. I.) Tool Company, it is understood, will recommend an extension of thirty-six months from January 1st, semi-annual payments, beginning next July, and interest at seven per cent., also payable semi-annually.

—The recent mild weather has had the effect of raising the Delaware river sufficiently high to move the ice. A gorge formed at Narrowsburg on Thursday afternoon, damming the water, which is rising rapidly. This is one of the places where an ice gorge formed last winter which resulted so disastrously.

—Advices from Brownsville, Texas, state that a meeting was called by Mayor Parker, and a committee appointed to draw up a memorial to Governor Cooke, representing the condition of the border, and to urge the continuance of Captain McNally's command in the service, and asking that it be increased to two hundred men. They nominated Colonel John L. Haynes, Captain L. McNally and Colonel John S. Ford as delegates to Washington to represent frontier matters to the national authorities.

—A passenger train on the Louisville, Nashville & Great Southern Railroad ran into the rear end of a freight train of the same company, on Thursday morning, near Short Line Junction. The morning was dark. The freight had out no signals, and was not seen by the passenger engineer in time to prevent telescoping. Frank Moore, engineer of the passenger train, was seriously injured on the head, besides having a thigh and knee broken. One fireman was slightly hurt. All the passengers escaped uninjured. The engines and a freight car were badly wrecked.

THE WEATHER.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER,
UNITED STATES SIGNAL SERVICE,
PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 23, 1875.

Local Observations.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	Humidt.	Wind.	Weather.
7 A. M.	29.891	55	73	W.	Fair.
2 P. M.	29.850	70	65	W.	Cloudy.
9 P. M.	30.008	49	77	N.	Clear.

Mean Barometer, 29.939.
Mean Thermometer, 51.
Lowest Thermometer, 48.
Highest Thermometer, 60.

L. A. WELSH,
Sergt., Sig. Service, U. S. A.

Probabilities for To-day.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
UNITED STATES SIGNAL SERVICE,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1875—1 A. M.

For Tennessee, the Ohio, upper Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys, falling barometer, southeast to northeast winds, colder, cloudy and rainy weather, followed in the Ohio valley by clearing, colder weather.

Preparing for the Mardi Gras Festival in Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 23.—Extensive arrangements are being made in this city to celebrate Mardi Gras on February 9 with an immense street procession during the day and a grand ball masque at night. Numerous clubs, societies, bands and others are making preparations to participate in the procession. A public meeting of citizens will be called shortly, when committees will be appointed and complete arrangements made to render it a success. Posters, circulars and invitations will be sent to all parts of the United States.

A Fraudulent Corporation.

BOSTON, December 23.—A company organized six months ago as the Yingham Manufacturing Company, with an alleged capital stock of $100,000, has gone into bankruptcy, with liabilities of $180,000, and no assets, $150,000 of the liabilities being in notes, the money obtained upon which was used by the officers for private purposes. Not a dollar of the capital was ever paid in. Chas. M. Strauss, clerk of the company, was indicted for perjury in making affidavit as to capital, and the other officers will be similarly served.

The Providence Tool Company.

PROVIDENCE, December 23.—The committee to investigate the affairs of the Providence Tool Company submit a statement, recommending an extension upon the entire indebtedness covering thirty-six months from January 1st next, with equal semi-annual payments, commencing July 1st, 1876, with interest at seven per cent. per annum. The committee states the assets of the company at $4,143,000, and the liabilities at $2,783,000

Yeager's Toy Bazaar.

Although the last ten days have witnessed a constant rush at the Toy and Fancy Goods House of C. Yeager & Co., No. 110 Market street, yet we are pleased to inform those who have not secured their complement of gift goods that the stock is still full, as goods are being received daily, and a large and excellent assortment of holiday goods await their inspection and examination. It were an endless task to enumerate one tenth of the variety entering into the aggregate of this well-filled and well-assorted store. Work boxes, jewel cases, dressing cases, handerchief and glove boxes, shell and pearl card cases, Bohemian mantel sets and vases, pocketbooks, satchels, albums, ivory hair brushes, musical boxes, toilet sets, hobby horses, dolls, toys and fancy goods of every description are selling at lower figures than ever before.

From Europe and New Jersey.

The gifts and toys of many houses in this line are old, out of date, while at the toy and fancy goods house of J. D. Thompson & Co. are to be found the latest novelties in all fancy goods, many of which have been imported directly to their store and only kept by them. Dolls, Toys and Fancy Goods in endless variety and prices low.

Bronze Tables

and Jardeniers, a large assortment, at very low prices at J. P. Smith, Son & Co.'s, No. 189 Liberty street, near Sixth street. Open at night.

For Sale.

Two second hand Cameron Steam Pumps in good order. They are 7 inch cylinder, 24 inch stroke, 4 inch discharge. Will be sold cheap by Epping, Carpenter & Co., Keystone Steam Pump Works, corner of Penn and Thirty-second streets.

Fine Cut Cameos

in all possible styles of settings. Also fine Gem Diamonds at European prices. For sale Friday and Saturday at Emanuel De Roy's, GAZETTE Building.

The German Inhabitants

Of the Black Forests of Germany are noted for their industry and skill in making Wooden Toys. Call and see their productions at Kramer & Vogleson's, 51 Sixth street.

Genuine Diamonds.

Finely set, latest styles, in Ear-Drops, Pins, Rings, Studs, Crosses, etc., at Emanuel De Roy's, GAZETTE Building.

ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

Regular Meeting Last Night.

The Question of Providing for the Poor—The Citizens' Committee Before Councils—A Conference Committee Appointed—General Routine Matters.

A regular meeting of Allegheny Councils was held last evening.

SELECT COUNCIL.

J. C. PATTERSON.....President
R. T. WHITE.....Clerk

The following members were present: Messrs. Callery, Heagy, Huckestein, Hax, Hartman, McRoberts, Phillips, Reed, Smith, Slack and President Patterson.

On motion of Mr. Slack the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

The citizens committee, appointed at the meeting of citizens held on Tuesday evening, to devise means for giving relief to the worthy poor in the city, were introduced to Councils by Mayor Phillips. Messrs Kountz, McCreery and Dean, of the committee, addressed Councils upon the object of their visit, after which they retired, and regular business was then taken up.

Mr. HUCKESTINE presented the report of the Survey Committee with an ordinance for opening Superior Run sewer, from Beaver avenue to Woodland avenue. Report received and ordinance passed finally.

Mr. YOEGTLY presented the report of the Street Committee. Report received.

The following ordinances accompanied the report:

Ordinance appointing Viewers to appraise and assess the damages and benefits on re-grading McClure avenue. Passed.

Ordinance for payment of $4,196.88 to Johnson and Wilhelm for the construction of stone walls on Howard street. Passed.

Ordinance for grading of Preble avenue, from Watkins to Elm streets. Passed.

Mr. SMITH submitted a resolution authorizing the transfer of certain sums from different appropriations to that of the Water Committee. Adopted.

The same gentleman presented a resolution instructing the Street Committee to employ as many of the destitute citizens in cleaning the streets as the interests of the city will admit of. Passed, unanimously.

The business from C. C., was then taken up and all actions of that body concurred in.

The ordinance regulating the manner of letting the public newspaper printing, and providing the manner of doing the same, as amended at the last meeting was taken up. Passed.

Adjourned.

COMMON COUNCIL.

W. P. PRICE.....President
ROBERT DILWORTH.....Clerk

The following members were present: Messrs. Bedell, Brown, Burton, Biber, Born, Cooke, Cochran, Drum, Erwin, Golden, Hughes, Kredel, Moul, Nesmith, Sholes, Swindell, Stone, Schmitt, Thompson, Jas. Wilson, Wall, Robt. Wilson, and President Price.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was on motion dispensed with.

Mr. GOLDEN presented a resolution directing the Wharf Committee to grant no lease for the occupation of the wharf for a permanent business between School street and Chestnut street and that as soon as the leases now granted expire all obstruction shall at once be removed.

Business from Select Council was taken up and all actions of that body concurred in except the ordinance requiring property holders to connect all rain conductors and waste water pipes with the public sewer passed in S. C. In C. it was lost by a vote of 13 ayes to 3 nays.

Mr. DRUM presented the report of the Health Committee. They submitted an ordinance creating the office of City Physician. Report received and ordinance adopted.

Mayor PHILLIPS presented the Citizens Relief Committee.

Chairman PRICE invited the committee to take seats, and then stated that the committee was appointed at a meeting of citizens, which had been called to consider the best mode of giving relief to the poor.

On motion of Mr. BROWN the Council decided to hear the committee.

Mr. WM. MCCREERY, Chairman of the Committee, then addressed Council and stated the action of the citizens' meeting, and also stated that the city make such improvements as are necessary, so as to give employment to the worthy poor, but not to tramps. He suggested the extension of the Pleasant Valley sewer, and also several other improvements might be made. In concluding he stated that Council might feel satisfied that the taxpayers would sustain Councils in anything they might do in furnishing them with employments.

Mr. W. J. KOUNTZ approved of all that Mr. McCreery had said and also thought that considerable employment could be furnished by the city in keeping the streets clean. If work was furnished he was satisfied that not more than one-fourth of the people would apply, who are now to be fed by the people. He was satisfied that of the two hundred men now fed by the city were offered one dollar or seventy-five cents a day for labor not more than one-fourth of them would accept the offer. Three-fourths of the men now complaining that they have nothing to do are praying that they won't find anything.

Mr. JOHN DEAN endorsed the remarks of the two previous speakers, and stated that he knew of some worthy men who would be glad for work if they only got fifty cents a day.

The committee then retired.

On motion of Mr. BEDELL Council adjourned.

As the members were about leaving Mr. COCHRAN moved that Council come to order again. There being no objection, the councilmen returned to their seats.

Mr. GOLDEN thought that it would not be treating the Citizens' Committee right to adjourn without taking some action in regard to the matter laid before Council, and he moved that a committee of five be appointed to confer with the Citizens' Committee.

Mr. STONE thought it would be well to add the City Solicitor to this committee, as matters would probably come before that committee in which the opinion of the Solicitor would be needed.

The suggestion was accepted and the motion thus amended was adopted, and Messrs. Golden, Stone, Cochran, Bedell and Sholes appointed the committee.

Mr. Cochran offered a resolution authorizing the making of transfers of moneys from different appropriations to others.

On motion the President of Council was added to the Committee to confer with the Citizens' Committee.

Adjourned.

A Christmas Thought.

"At Christmas play, and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year."
—*Thomas Tusser.*

The joyous Christmas time is fast approaching, and the preparations for its celebration in the time-honored way of giving tokens of good will and affection seem to be as extensive as though money was easy. But the people this year seem more anxious to give gifts that will be useful rather than merely ornamental. That is the right spirit, and we are glad we can suggest to our friends how they may combine both beauty and utility in their gift. They can do so by purchasing a Wheeler & Wilson New Family Sewing Machine from our friend, Mr. Sidney Omohundro, corner of Wood street and Virgin alley. Such a gift will be a joy throughout many years, and its busy hum will always recall pleasant thoughts of the giver. There is no more perfect piece of mechanism made than the Wheeler & Wilson, and among sewing machines it is pre-eminent for its simplicity, durability, easy running and noiseless action. Such a gift would reflect the good sense of the giver, and would also be an evidence of intelligence and taste. Nothing could be more more appropriate for a lady, and our gentlemen readers should take the hint and profit by it to-day.

Steamship Arrivals Yesterday.

Dispatches received at Max Schamberg's European Steamship Exchange and Telegraph office, at 163 Smithfield street announce the arrival of the steamer Pomerania at New York, steamer Dakota at Queenstown, steamer Olympia at Southampton.

Children Scream with Delight.

Mothers have the greatest difficulty in restraining their children from going wild with joy at sight of the Toys and Fancy Goods at J. D. Thompson & Co.'s, Nos. 176 and 178 Wood street.

For Rich Bronzes

by all means go to Messrs. J. P. Smith, Son & Co.'s, No. 189 Liberty street, near Sixth street, where you will find the largest assortment in the city. Open during the evening.

Elegant Stone Cameos,

Portraits of all the Grecian and Roman Warriors and Statesmen cut by the finest artists. For two days only at Emanuel De Roy's, GAZETTE Building.

Bird Cages,

in endless variety of styles and finish, Corn Poppers, Broilers, Toasters, and a full line of Housefurnishing Goods, at Denmier Bro.'s, 126 and 128 Smithfield street. Prices low.

Get One

of those fine inlaid Work Boxes at W. A. Gildenfenney & Co.'s, 69 Fifth avenue, if you want something beautiful and useful for a Christmas present.

Home Made Apple Butter, put up in ½ gallon stone jars, for family use. JACOB B. HUBLEY & Co., Library Building, 193 Penn avenue.

Picture Books

for the children; all the most popular kinds in great variety, at W. A. Gildenfenney & Co.'s, 69 Fifth avenue.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

CHECKERED FRONT.

The House that Sells the Great

WHITE RIVER FLOUR,
The Best Flour
For the Money in the United States.

FULL AND COMPLETE LINE
GROCERIES.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER,
PITTSBURGH, Dec. 23, 1875.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the two (2) per cent. of the outstanding Water Extension Bonds of the City of Pittsburgh, will be paid if presented at this office, January 5th, 1876.

E. M. SWODGRASS,
Controller.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Is herewith given that R. C. HOFF, proprietor of the EAST END TEA and GROCERY HOUSE, has not heretofore nor will he hereafter be accountable to anyone for any transactions of Mr. S. H. HUGH, as will soon be shown to the entire satisfaction of the public. Signed,

B. C. HOFF.

Agent for the sale of the justly celebrated Elaine Oil, non-explosive, superior to the nasty coal gas, and will be generally used in all cities after it becomes known to the public. Anthracite Coal of different grades will be kept constantly on hand and for sale.

B. C. HOFF,
Agent and Proprietor of the East End Elaine and Coal Co. 576

DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES for the Western District of Pennsylvania. In Bankruptcy. This is to give notice that on the 23d day of Dec, A. D. 1875, a Warrant in Bankruptcy was issued against the estate of FRANK TRONDLE, of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania, who has been adjudged a bankrupt upon his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to such bankrupt, to him or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him are forbidden by law; that a meeting of the creditors of said bankrupt, to prove their debts and to choose one or more Assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at the office of the Register, No. 98 Diamond street, Pittsburgh, Pa., before SAMUEL HARPER, Esq., Register, on the 12th day of January, A. D. 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M.

JOHN HALL,
U. S. Marshal for said District.
Pittsburgh, December 23, 1875. 575

D. Appleton & Co.,

549 and 551 Broadway, New York,

PUBLISH THIS DAY:

I.

PROCTOR'S NEW BOOK.

Our Place Among Infinities.

A SERIES OF ESSAYS CONTRASTING OUR LITTLE ABODE IN SPACE AND TIME WITH THE INFINITIES AROUND US. To which are added Essays on the Jewish Sabbath and Astrology. By RICHARD A. PROCTOR, author of "The Expanse of Heaven," etc, 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, $1.75.

This work takes its name from the essays, occupying the first seventy pages of the book; but the latter essays, as showing the nature of those parts of the universe which lie nearest to us, are properly included under the same title.

II.

French Children at Home.

An Introduction to "Comment on Parle a Paris; or French as Spoken in Paris." By Madame de PETRAC, author of "Comment on Parle a Paris." 1 vol., 12mo. Price 90 cents.

This work we now offer our young students will, we trust, be both useful and amusing. Our object is to introduce them into the home circles of their little French friends across the great ocean.

The Marcel system, which is now thoroughly appreciated, has been followed through these pages, which we have endeavored to render still more attractive by introducing the characters of "Comment on Parle a Paris" in their childhood.—*Extract from Preface.*

III.

Geier-Wally.

A TALE OF THE TYROL. By WILHELMINA VON HILLERN. Handy Volume Edition. Cloth, red edges. Price, $1.25.

Auerbach, the great German novelist, in a recent letter to a lady in this country, pronounces this work "the best short story in modern German literature."

The following extract is from a review of thirteen pages in *Cornhill Magazine* for November:

"Unless we are greatly mistaken, this romance, with its portraiture of dark, fitful and almost weird feeling, which is at the same time always genuinely human, its narration of flashing and thrilling scene, and its descriptions of the many fancy stirring phases of Alpine scenery, will permanently hold a high place among the best fiction of the day."

Either of the above sent by mail, post-paid, on receipt of the price.

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Elegant Stone Cameo, Coral, Onyx, Pearl and Gold Jewelry.

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No. 75 Smithfield Street,
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The undersigned have now on exhibition a choice stock of the elegant Watches made at the factory of Tiffany & Co., Geneva, in Ladies' sizes, Open Faced Hunting Cases and Half Hunting Cases, Stem-Winders.

Those thinking of buying a really Fine Watch should examine these splendid specimens of superior and chaste workmanship.

L. McINTOSH & CO.

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Beautiful Birds and Animals!

MR. CHAS. ESPICH, corner Smithfield street and Sixth avenue, dealer in FINE BIRDS AND ANIMALS, and all kinds of CAGES, has just received a full stock of

BIRDS AND ANIMALS,

of all kinds, from all parts of the world, and is now selling them at cost rates.

Keeps on hand all kinds of Bird Food, and manufactures a celebrated article of Mocking Bird Food. Also, have Trained Mocking Birds and Sea Shells for sale. 57:y-MWF

HEADACHE.

It is an established fact that the EXTRACT OF CRANBERRIES and HEMP, combined by Dr. J. P. MILLER, 327 Spruce street, Philadelphia, Pa., permanently cures the most obstinate cases of Dyspeptic, Nervous or Sick Headache, and is an absolute specific for Neuralgia and Nervousness. Prepared in pills; 50 cts. a box. Sent by mail. R. E. SELLERS & CO., Agents, 65 Wood street, Pittsburgh, Pa. ap30:rp60

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Cleans Better, Scours Faster and Polishes Brighter
Than any other article in the market.

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AWARDED IT
THE FIRST PREMIUM
Over all others. Although but a short time in this market it is fast becoming the popular and well-known DIST ERADICATOR, and pronounced the
PRIDE OF THE KITCHEN.
It cleans as if by magic

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50c. Dep.	Prices all marked in Plain Figures at from 25 to 50 per cent. below the standard, ranging from 10 cents to $100	$2.00 Dep.

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Offer the Greatest Inducements in SEAL SKIN SACQUES, of which they make a specialty. The stock comprises everything in this line, from the Alaska to the finest Shetland Seal, at the lowest figures. They also offer great bargains in FURS of all descriptions; all the grades of Russian and Hudson Bay Sable, Mink, Seal, Lynx, Black Marten, Squirrel, Alaska, French Lynx; Muffs, Boas, and Collars, Mink Circulars; also, all kinds of Children's Furs. Gent's Beaver GLOVES and COLLARS, Ladies' and Gents' SEAL CAPS and GLOVES, Ladies' and Gents' KID GLOVES. PRICES LOW, in accordance with the times. YOUMAN'S FINE SILK HAT.

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WE ARE NOW EXHIBITING THE LARGEST AND FINEST STOCK OF

LAMPS, CHANDELIERS, BRACKETS,

Ever offered in this city. These goods were awarded all the Premiums at the late Exposition.

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WE HAVE A FINE LINE OF

GLASSWARE, TEA SETS, DISHES, GOBLETS, TUMBLERS, WINE GLASSES, CHAMPAGNE GLASSES, FRENCH AND BOHEMIAN TWIN GOBLETS AND CHAMPAGNE GLASSES,

AT LOWER PRICES THAN ANY HOUSE WEST OF THE MOUNTAINS.

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No. 90 Smithfield St.

FOR HOLIDAY SALES.

JOSEPH HORNE & CO.,
MARKET STREET.

Buyers desiring to replenish their lines with desirable goods for Holiday sales, are invited to an examination of the following goods now in and opening daily:

Linen Sets, in Plain and Fancy Boxes; Handkerchiefs, in

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OFFICIAL PAPER
Of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City and Allegheny County.

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Single Subscribers	$1 75
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A copy is furnished gratuitously to the getter up of a Club of Ten. Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

Give full address, postoffice, county and State, also nearest Express office, in order that there may be no mistakes in forwarding papers.

Persons desiring to subscribe for the GAZETTE—Daily or Weekly—will, upon application, be supplied with specimen copies, free of charge.

KING, REED & CO.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1875.

PETROLEUM at Antwerp 29f.

BONDS at Frankfort, new 5s, 99¾.

GOLD closed in New York yesterday at 113¾.

GENERAL JOVELLAR is to return to Cuba as Captain General. He is among the best of those sent to govern Cuba, but the trouble now is, that no man, however excellent, personally, can appease the wrath of the insurgents.

PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF, during his recent visit to Berlin, is said to have arranged a complete understanding with the German Government, relative to Turkey, the Eastern question, and the purchase by England of the Suez Canal shares. Turkey is to be held to her engagements, and affairs kept on a peaceable basis. So stands the affair.

THE memory of HENRY WILSON is precious to the colored people of this country. The *Monthly Elevator*, their organ in Western Pennsylvania, pays a glowing tribute to him, and speaks of his deeds and virtues with the eloquence of deep and earnest feeling. The *Elevator*, by the way, is thoroughly Republican, and deserves a wide and profitable circulation.

IT is a consolation to know that there is power somewhere to regulate things. The Democratic House at Washington is called upon by the New York *Herald* to take GRANT in hand, and make him speak out about this Third Term business. It holds him severely accountable for what Bishop HAVEN did, and even goes so far as to intimate that he proposes to rule the country perpetually by the aid of "religious fanatics." Hence, the House must come to the rescue and force him "to show a decent respect for the Constitution, the laws, and sacred traditions of our country." All of which means that the CÆSAR spook is in full training once more.

CINCINNATI is now urging its claims for the National Republican Convention. It bases its demand, in part, on the fact that it entertained the GREELEY Convention, three years ago. We do not see that this is a very strong argument. If the results of the Republican Convention should be as disastrous as were those of the GREELEY affair, the Republican party might be considered as wiped out. It was a bad venture, and one that the Republican party does not need to copy. Pittsburgh had the honor of entertaining the Convention that gave birth to the Republican party; and the candidates it put in the field were remarkably well sustained before the people. Pittsburgh is preferable to Cincinnati.

THE New York *Herald* is "sorry that the meeting of Methodist ministers at Cincinnati adjourned without coming to a vote on the question of censuring Bishop HAVEN." In tfeir view of Methodists, such action on the part of a Preacher's meeting would have been as ill-advised as the Bishop's course is declared to be. The Bishop did not nominate President GRANT for a Third Term, and the impassioned utterance, "pray that he may be re-elected," was not inappropriate to the general tenor of his speech. If the Preachers' meeting of Cincinnati or elsewhere choose to censure the Bishop for such an exhortation, we suppose they can do it, but they will be voted stupid by the people, so far as they think necessary to notice them.

TO BECOME a member of Congress is to suddenly spring into the consciousness of being a great man. At least, so feels Mr. HARRISON, of Illinois, who never felt so great before in all his life; and to properly illustrate the fact that he understands things, he has written out an amendment to the Constitution, proposing the election of President of the United States for a single term only, and that he be ineligible thereafter. He is to be consoled, however, for this by being made a member of the United States Senate for life. The honorable member imagines that this is an original proposition. It is, really, as old as the Federal Constitution, having been considered and rejected in the original framing of that valuable document.

KERR's committees are declared to have been made up in the interest of TILDEN's nomination for the Presidency; yet there are those who declare that KERR aspires, on his own account, to the honorable position of Presidential nominee, and that the committees are in his own interest. We do not assume to comprehend the inside reasons for the movements made by the Democratic leaders; but if they mean anything, they are certainly well veiled. To say that the committees of KERR are potent factors in a Presidential combination, is to credit them with occult qualities not observable at first glance. If the South and West are the controlling States, there may be something in the combination made; if not, the entire operation is a mere hap-hazard effort to form committees without any distinct purpose whatever.

THIS is purchase day for Christmas, and we judge it will be well employed by the many who appreciate the satisfaction that comes from an enjoyable Christmas. The little ones know little of what are termed hard times,—unless it be those children of the poor who are compelled to realize what sorrow and suffering are. Even these, however, come to Christmas with an eager longing for the comforts, presents, and pleasures such as greet them at no other time. We hold it to be commendable to gratify the whims and wishes of the little ones at such times. It serves to inspire them with contentment, and makes the Christmas a day of interest and rejoicing. Our city is well supplied with Christmas gifts, and the advertising columns of the GAZETTE will direct you to the places where the best goods can be found.

CHICAGO is very prompt to speak out when anything occurs to affect the prosperity of her trade,—while Pittsburgh generally suffers in silence. In the recent rearrangement of freights, it was determined by the railroad companies not to "cut" until after they left Chicago, going west. Thus the Lake city does not get the benefit of this little arrangement. As a result of this combination, the rate on a barrel of flour is 90 cents from Chicago to New York, while a barrel of flour is carried from Milwaukee to New York, 90 miles further, for 80 cents. This Milwaukee flour, it must be remembered, is brought directly through Chicago, so that it is not merely carried from Milwaukee to Chicago for nothing, but a premium of 10 cents is offered Milwaukee to send it. The proposition has been made to give all the business not to Chicago to some one line that will be evident cut rates for points west, and the result that a struggle will ensue, and the transactions to Chicago. suit will be some makes a fight of this Pittsburgh would gain were it occasionally

THE O. A. U. still absorbs the affectionate interest of the New York *Herald*, but its revelations do not amount to anything. It proves that there is such an order, and that it is designed,—not to fight the Catholics, except so far as they assail our Public School system. This is the entire scope of the organization, so far as yet developed. It has nothing whatever to do with the Third Term, nor is President GRANT a member of it. Yet it is declared that it has great power in some States, and will wield a divided influence in the coming election struggles. We suspect it will prove an ephemeral organization, but, like the Know Nothing order, it will answer the purpose for which it has been organized,—avert the danger that threatens our Public School system. The fact that so soon as the Catholics put forth an effort anti-American in character, some organization springs up, with power enough to thwart them, proves that we are alert for every danger.

DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES.

The estimates sent by the Secretary of the Treasury to Congress, form the basis for the work of the Committees on Ways and Means and Appropriations. They also give a close idea of what it is expected the Government will cost the ensuing year. The totals are figured at $314,612,608,48. This is about four and a half millions more than last year. Congress, last year, reduced the estimates, but this year the estimates are in excess of those of last year. In this Congress, itself, in its various objects of expenditure, calls for about $1,900,000 over and above the appropriations for 1876. The War Department calls for about $17,000,000 in its estimates more than the appropriations of Congress for the current year. The Navy Department demands something over $4,000,000 beyond its current appropriation. The Interior Department wants about $700,000 more. The Postoffice Department, whose deficiencies are always on the increase, calls for about $900,000. The Department of Agriculture wants a little matter of $2,000 additional. The only departments whose estimates call for a less amount than their appropriations for the current year are the Department of State, $80,000 less; the Treasury Department, which estimates for $3,000,000 less than the current year; and the Department of Justice, which knocks off a little matter of $37,000 from its demands of nearly $4,000,000 in the aggregate per annum.

It will be noticed in the above that Congress has been as ready to go beyond proper bounds as have the Departments. It will now be necessary to practice economy, and a better time to begin has not existed. The times are hard, and while others are compelled to live closely, the expenses of the Government should be reduced to the lowest reasonable limit. It is not, of course, the part of wisdom to reduce the efficiency of any Department, but a close scrutiny might indicate where reductions of expense are possible, without affecting the vigor of the service. The committees have, during the past two years, pared very closely, but this affords no reason why the work should not be continued. Then the Pension and Indian Departments might be inquired after. If we may rely on rumors, the Government is outrageously swindled in these Departments. Even in the list of pensioners of the war of 1812, there are thousands, indicating that soldiers are very long lived when on the pension list, or else that fraud is practiced. This can be looked up, without the slightest difficulty, and wrongs remedied. So of the Indians. If the revelations of last Summer amounted to anything, there is room for reform in the matter of paying the Indians, by which millions might be saved. Let the Government carefully investigate these items, and rectify the wrongs, and we are confident many millions can be saved. The Democracy wish to do something brilliant,—let them cease offering meaningless resolutions, and take in hand the real work of reducing expenses, and the country will appreciate it. But if they are simply partizan, and do not come up to popular expectation, they will gain little.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

We have spoken of the Third Term as we thought the tenor of public sentiment required, and now refer to two names in connection with the Presidential nomination, because of the prominence they have assumed within a few weeks. BLAINE and BRISTOW have undoubtedly gained in strength before the people, and are becoming quite prominent, with perhaps an equality in strength, as matters now stand. The whisky fight, and an open manner, with his recognized executive ability, are the strong points of the Treasury Secretary. His hard-money record is an element of strength at the East, and his Southern residence, is a help at the South. He has not been mixed up in political contests, and so stands clear of many of the animosities that so often injure aspirants for high offices. On the other hand, he has the uncertainty of the whisky contest continuing long enough to hold popular attention, and so aid his chances. The monetary question is also an element of danger. It is said he realizes this, and even has a clear perception of the probable failure of his efforts to reach specie payments on the line he is pursuing. If Congress refuses—as it will—to adopt his low rate bond scheme for retiring greenbacks, and accumulating gold, he must drift into next year utterly helpless in his financial policy. The effect of this upon his chances will, of course, be injurious.

BLAINE has, just at the present, many advantages over his competitors. He can speak to the entire country whenever he wishes, and is capable of doing this to a very great advantage. His leadership of his party has been very satisfactory, thus far, and he has made several very excellent points on the Democracy. He has made very few mistakes, and is in contact with men from all sections, thus being able to reach all parts of the country. His danger is in the jealousies that surround him. He claims, we believe, to have the promise of the delegation from this State, as well as Ohio, New Jersey, and New England generally. He is certainly the growing man: but he counts too confidently when he expects this State. If our State Ring shall get up our delegates, as they are arranging to do, they propose first, to cast the vote for HARTRANFT, and second, for the strongest man before the Convention. They are arranging to win, not to compliment any one. If BLAINE is strongest, they are for him; if not, they are for some one else. All this, in the supposition that they are allowed to have everything their own way. Of this, more anon.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE THRONES AND PALACES OF BABYLON AND NINEVEH. From Sea to Sea. A Thousand Miles on Horseback. By John P. Newman, D.D. New York: Harper Brothers. Pittsburgh: R. S. Davis & Co.

This work is the result of extended travels and careful study and research, on the part of Dr. Newman, who went abroad as Inspector of Consulates for the United States. His official character gave him unusual advantages, and these were largely availed of, in securing access to places not usually visited by travelers in the East. He was specially qualified by previous studies for the peculiar journey made by him, and the researches into which he entered. The value of his discoveries may be inferred when it is stated that on his return to London he was made a member of the London Society of Biblical Archæology.

The work under mention treats particularly of Babylon and Nineveh, the cities supposed to have been situated near the Garden of Eden. His journey up the Persian Gulf and his visit to the cities referred to are pleasantly described—the route being one unwritten of. The chief work is in what may be the studies of the author, amid those historic regions, and in the discoveries and descriptions of interesting relics of his visit. To the casual reader or the Biblical scholar, it is a work of rare interest, and must find its way into every household where the love of literature exists. The style is clear and flowing, and the work is issued in the best style of the Harpers. It will constitute a choice holiday gift, acceptable to any intelligent person.

LIFE OF LORD BYRON, and other sketches, by Emilio Castelar. Translated by Mrs. Arthur Arnold. Published by Harper & Bros., New York. For sale in Pittsburgh by R. S. Davis & Co.

There are half a dozen sketches in this volume. They comprise Castelar's observations on Byron, Victor Hugo, Alexander Dumas, Emile Girardin, Daniel Marin and Adolphe Thiers. It is one of the notable books of the season. The reader seems to catch from it the inspiration of the eloquence of the great leader in Spain. The sketches are remarkable—as much for the clear, definite portrayal of the peculiarities of each man spoken of, and the generally just estimate of the genius and influence of each—as they are for the vivid earnestness and beauty of the language used. It is a book that will be perused with delight, as well as with great profit.

IN DOORS AND OUT; or Views from the Chimney Corner. By Oliver Optic: Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. For sale in Pittsburgh by R. S. Davis & Co.

This work contains a number of sketches, in which the author aims to ridicule the shams of society. Some of them are quite direct, and if they were not so overloaded with "slang," would be worthy of some commendation. They are short stories, and treat of matters at home, at church, in the counting room, and elsewhere, but in the majority of instances the style is stilted, the story is overdrawn, and there is such a reckless disregard of pure English, that the few merits of the book are borne down by that, which is to say the least, distasteful.

THE LIFE OF JONATHAN SWIFT. By John Forster. Vol. I, 1667-1711. Published by Harper & Bros., New York. For sale in Pittsburgh by R. S. Davis & Co.

This is but one volume of the work, but it is very interesting. It is simply exhaustive of the subject. Everything relating to Swift and his career has been gathered up to complete this "Life," and the industry and painstaking care of the biographer is exhibited in every page. It is a book that has been looked for in the literary world, and now that it has come it has given satisfaction. It is perhaps the best book emanating from Forster's pen.

REMINISCENCES OF FORTS SUMTER AND MOULTRIE IN 1860-61. By Abner Doubleday. Published by Harper & Bros., New York, and for sale in Pittsburgh by R. S. Davis & Co.

The purpose of this book seems to be principally to laud the part taken by the writer in the scenes around Moultrie and Sumter. He figures as the hero of his own story very conspicuously, and whenever he refers to Major Anderson he does it in a critical way—albeit the criticisms are not harsh. Aside from these blemishes and a certain rambling style the little book gives many interesting reminiscences, which are valuable because they are the records of an eye witness.

THE SECRET OF THE ISLAND; by Jules Verne; translated from the French by W. H. G. Kingston. Published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York, and for sale in Pittsburgh by R. S. Davis & Co.

This volume concludes the series relating to Lincoln Island, and happily winds up the toils and tribulations of the persons treated of throughout. It is full of wild adventure, and is perhaps the most exciting and entertaining volume of the series. It is elegantly bound, and would make an acceptable holiday gift.

PERSONAL.

HENRY WILSON's portrait, full length, is to be placed in Faneuil Hall.

WELD is the name of a Boston man reputed to be worth $18,000,000.

GEORGE S. FOX, the celebrated clown, has been officially declared a lunatic.

EDWIN FORREST's mansion in Philadelphia has been sold for $98,000. It is to be turned into a club-house.

EX-SENATOR NYE was removed from an asylum for the insane only after his recovery had been pronounced hopeless.

EX-CONGRESSMAN A. C. WILDER, of Kansas, died in San Francisco, on Thursday morning. Mr. Wilder was at one time Mayor of Rochester, N. Y.

LUCY HOOPER describes Barriere, the dramatist, as "a tall, slender aristocratic-looking man, with silver-threaded hair, keen dark eyes, finely-cut features and a heavy black moustache."

MR. JAMES LICK, whose failure to die at the appointed and seemingly proper time, so deranged his business that it came very near resulting in serious trouble, is punishing his recovery by almost innumerable begging letters.

HANNAH DUPTON, who, then being a pretty girl of fifteen, disappeared mysteriously from Missouri, near London, Ont., in 1856, is wanted, as her father has discovered that she has fallen heir to a fortune of $400,000.

MR. GEORGE H. PENDLETON, of Ohio, who is on his way with his family to Florida, where he intends to pass the Winter, has been detained in Augusta, Ga., by the sudden and serious illness of one of his daughters.

A DISPATCH from Traverse City, Mich., announces the death, at East Bay, Grand Traverse county, of Henry Siles, an old pioneer, who was the first white person born in Cincinnati. He was a resident of Detroit at the time of Hull's surrender.

MR. MCPHERSON, during the twelve years he was clerk of the House, disbursed over six millions of dollars. When he had a final settlement a few days ago the Treasury accounts showed $1.76 to his credit more than was shown by his own accounts.

DORRESCE ATWATER, American Consul for the Society Islands, has married the Princess Moetia, a wealthy native lady, whose right to rule, though she has not asserted it, is equal to that asserted by Queen Pomare. She is educated, accomplished and beautiful.

PETER HERDIC, ESQ., of Williamsport, has just built a large and handsome church and furnished it in the most elegant manner, with organ and all other matters complete, ready for worship, at a cost of $70,000, which he proposes to formally present to the Protestant Episcopal Church of Williamsport on Christmas day, clear of all incumbrances.

WILLIAM ALSTON HAYNE, a son of Hayne, Webster's antagonist, sits in the California Legislature for Santa Barbara and Ventura. He is fifty-four years old, and describes himself as "a Democrat of the old school." Mr. Hayne sat in the Legislature of South Carolina just before the passage of the act of secession, and went to California in 1867.

THE Hon. Geo. Bancroft told a reporter of a Philadelphia paper recently, that the coming Centennial Exhibition would, in every respect, excel any international exhibition ever before given. He thinks it will drive away hard times and encourage immigration to an astonishing extent. Mr. Bancroft thinks the next Presidential campaign will be the most exciting one of our history.

GENERAL EATON, Commissioner of Education, has been invited to be present and deliver an address at the dedication of the Fisk University (for colored persons) at Nashville, Tenn., on the 1st of January next. The building, which cost between seventy and eighty thousand dollars, it is stated, was erected mainly through the efforts of the colored Jubilee Singers, who are now in Europe.

IN his early life ex-Speaker Blaine was a professor of Mathematics in Drennon College, Ky., and at the time General Bushrod Johnson, now at the head of the Military Institute, Nashville, Tenn., was a professor in the same institution. A number of citizens of Tennessee, educated at Drennon, still have diplomas of graduation with the signatures of Messrs. Blaine and Johnson attached.

PRINCE BISMARCK received an autograph letter from the Emperor William, condoling with him on the premature death of Count Eulenburg, who was shortly to have married the Prince's daughter. The Crown Prince of Germany added his condolences, and the Kings of Bavaria, Saxony and Wurtemburg sent their's by telegraph. All the chief officers of State and high officials called at the Chancellor's residence to inquire after his health and express their sympathy with him.

IT is now said that there is on record a letter from the late General George H. Thomas in which he offered his services to Virginia on the secession side. The letter is reported to be under date of January 18, 1861, and to contain the sentiment that he "could never draw his sword against a State struggling for its constitutional rights." The authority for the letter is General F. N. Smith, of the Virginia Military Institute. We want to see that letter before believing the very thin story.

MR. GLADSTONE wrote as follows to a correspondent who asked him to introduce a bill for the inspection of convents: "I conceive that no institution should be allowed in this country which restrains the personal liberty, as commonly understood, of its members or inmates; but I am not cognizant of the facts with respect to the liberty of the inmates of nunneries on which the justification of the measure you suggest would have to rest, and I could not, therefore, undertake to introduce a measure on the subject, even were I taking a larger share than is actually the case in the general legislation of the country."

GEN. WM. T. SHERMAN, dressed in military costume, was on the point of starting for the New England dinner last evening as a reporter was ushered into the Fifth Avenue Hotel. The reporter asked for an expression of opinion as to whether sectarian issues would affect the next Presidential election. "Oh, I wouldn't for the world say a word about that," said the General with great earnestness. "It is a thing about which people ought not to speak, or even to think. I believe in the Constitution of the United States, and the Ten Commandments. That's enough for me."—*N. Y. Sun.*

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

IOWA has 8,865 Quakers, 4,465 males and 4,400 females.

THE current estimate of the cotton crop of 1875-6 is 4,100,000 bales.

AT Montreal work has been found for 1,500 extra men on city improvements, at seven cents an hour.

THE New York Legislature will meet on Tuesday, the 4th of January, and the New Jersey Legislature one week later.

JACOB HABERL and David Hastie, two young men, were drowned on Tuesday evening last, while skating near New York.

BLASIUS PASTORIUS has been convicted of the murder of Isaac Jaquette, at Norristown, Pa. A motion for a new trial has been made.

THE Bank of Brandywine, at Westchester, Pa., is now in the hands of an assignee, Wm. H. Jeffries, Cashier of the National Bank of Chester county.

AT Boonsboro, Howard county, Missouri, James Thorne quarreled with a man named Mitchell, on Saturday last, and was struck by him on the head with a club and killed.

NEAR Junction City, Kansas, on Tuesday, George Hunter, colored, and George Davidson, white, had an altercation about their cattle, and Hunter shot and killed Davidson.

IN a performance by the Richings-Bernard Opera Company, in Springfield, Mass., Mr. Bernard was too hoarse to utter an audible sound. He went through the motions of his part silently, and the absurdity pleased the assembly as well, probably, as his singing would have done.

"AS TO opening oysters," said Old Hurricane, "why, nothing's easier, if you only know how." "And how's how?" inquired Straight. "Scotch snuff," answered Old Hurricane, very sententiously; "Scotch snuff; bring a little of it ever so near their noses, and they will sneeze their lids off."

IT is very well for the Democracy to talk about the economies they will realize, but one item of the Treasury expenditures will need to be doubled for their benefit. That is, the expense for vaults, locks and safes on the public buildings, which last year cost $103,387 95.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

THE Pennsylvania Railroad Company has arranged their reduced freight rates. The rates from Philadelphia to Chicago are to be for first class freight twenty-seven cents per one hundred pounds; second class, twenty-three, and third and fourth classes eighteen; fifth class, fourteen. The new rate to St. Louis: First class, thirty-eight cents; second class, thirty-two; third class, twenty-six; fourth class, twenty-six; fifth class, twenty-one.

IT appears from a New York cotemporary that on the opening of a theatre in that city recently, the manager gave a superb lunch to the critics, but the receipts of the house have not yet justified the payment of the bill. The critics were well pleased with the "rum and whisky and gin, and six bowls of claret punch, and cigars and brandy, besides the eatables" with which they were furnished, but the restauranter now wants his money and has to seek the law to compel payment.

JUST LIKE THEM.

Mr. Patterson and the Speakership.

If our Pittsburgh correspondent reports the Democratic Allegheny Representatives correctly, they must have sublime views of constitutional questions out about the Smoky City. They believe that the next session should be treated as a new legislative session, provided, however, Mr. Patterson can be re-elected Speaker. If, therefore, Mr. Patterson can't be re-elected, then the Allegheny members hold that the Constitution makes an annual session of the Legislature last two years, and if Mr. Patterson can be re-elected, then the Constitution, when it says there shall be an annual session, means that it shall be an annual session. It is not always fair to hold a man responsible for the follies of his friends, but it does seem to us that Speaker Patterson can't too soon give public notice that any Constitutional issue, touching the next session of the Legislature, must be decided without reference to his individual interests. If he shall fail to do this, it will be justly assumed that his friends reflect his views, and every fair-minded member of the House will resolve all doubts against him. He should understand that the certainty and sanctity of our legislative enactments are involved, and no member who professes any regard for his legislative duties will fail to decide them entirely without reference to the interests of those who want to be Speakers or clerks, or pasters and folders. We hope to hear from Mr. Patterson that he doesn't propose to decide a grave Constitutional issue by the chances of a lot of petty officials being continued in their places. If they can't keep them with the advantage of possession, to much use to us it would look as if a general clearing out was a necessity.—*Phila. Times.*

A Distressing Case.

The conjunction of the season of gifts with the season of Revolutionary memories presents a fitting opportunity for directing the attention of our patriotic and benevolent citizens to a case of extreme destitution that has lately been brought to our notice; it is that of Mr. John Blake Washington and his family, of Summerville, S. C., whose entire fortune was swept away by the civil war, and who are now reduced to the necessity of depending for the very means of subsistence on the charity of their friends. Mr. Washington is the only living grandson, bearing the surname of Col. Wm. Washington, the hero of the battle of Eutaw Springs, whose flag, it will be remembered, was carried in honor to the Centennial celebrations at Concord and Lexington last April. Colonel Washington was first cousin to Gen. George Washington, and at one time his companion in arms. Mr. Washington's present distress is not owing in any wise to wilful idleness; he has made every effort during the last few years to embark in some kind of business, but in vain. Mrs. Washington, his devoted wife, has opened a children's school, but thus far has succeeded in getting but two pupils, each of whom pays the miserable fee of two and one-half dollars a month. The country about Summerville is swarming with ignorant negroes, and the white minority are generally too poor or too indifferent to the value of education to send their children to a select school.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

Democratic Retrenchment and Economy.

There can be little doubt that the new Democratic members of the House, some of them at least, have strong views on the subject of economy. The following conversation is vouched for by a Congressman as having actually occurred in the restaurant of the House between two new members of the majority: "After some comparison of domestic arrangements for the session, A. inquired: 'What have you done about your washing?' 'Oh,' said B., 'I have made an excellent arrangement for that; I have got a first-rate negro woman, a real good woman, I think, and have made a bargain with her for the season at a dollar a dozen.' 'Well,' responded A., 'I am not quite certain whether my arrangement is as cheap as that or not. I have made a bargain with a woman to do all my washing for the session for a dollar and a half a month; but I'll watch it for the first month, and if I find your bargain is cheaper, I'll try and get your woman to do mine too.'"—*Boston Globe.*

A Rude Interruption.

In one of the street cars yesterday, says M. Quad, a young man and young lady commenced a hankerchief flirtation, and they carried it on so badly that an old chap with gray burnside whiskers had his attention attracted. He didn't detect the flirtation, but he was greatly annoyed that the young man should wipe his nose so often, and at length he blurted out:

"Have you got the ca-tarrh?"

"No, sir," replied the young man.

"Well, then, if I were you I'd take my blasted nose off and let it rest awhile. When a person pays out his hard-earned money to ride on the street cars he wants o take some comfort."

New Fangled Words.

An old-fashioned woman living on Cass avenue, says the *Free Press*, took her boy to a doctor's office the other day and said to the physician:

"I've brought him here to be amputated."

"You mean vaccinated," suggested the doctor.

"They used to call it amputated when I was young," she said with a sigh, "but I suppose they're got some new-fangled name for it now, and you are right. Don't hurt him more than you can help."

CHRISTMAS IN PITTSBURGH.

BY W.

The hissing metal runs in fiery streams,
The crushing hammer falls upon the bloom,
The iron-throated whistle hoarsely screams,
The air is heavy with sulphurous gloom.

Ten thousand hands throw in the glowing bars,
Between the rolls that rumble thund'ringly;
A thousand anvils shoot out flashing stars,
'Mid smoke and flame of busy industry.

The bare-armed blower awells the crystal globe,
The boiler stirs the liquid metal sea;
The Smoky City wears a sooty robe,
And Coal and Iron hold high revelry.

The din is hushed. The shepherd's guiding star
Shines in the east with cloud-dispelling ray.
"Peace and good-will!" Glad tidings from afar,
Dawn on the Smoky City. Blessed day!
—*The Christmas Casket.*

THE DYNAMITE ASSASSIN.

An Episode in the Career of Thompson.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., December 22.—William Henry Thompson, made notorious in connection with his attempt to destroy the steamer Mosel at Bremerhaven, came to St. Louis just after the war, and boarded several months at the Southern Hotel. He represented himself to those with whom he became intimate, as a blockade runner at Nassau. He kept secluded, and it was understood that he was liable to arrest at any time upon a charge of abetting the enemy as a blockade runner. The proprietor of the hotel states that he had ample means, having deposited in their safe at one time $75,000 in United States bonds. In 1866 he went to Highland, Ill., where he spent his money freely. He met here a Miss Paris, daughter of a former modiste of St. Louis, with whom he fell in love and married. The couple came to St. Louis and lived for some time in rather elegant style, but suddenly disappeared to no one knows where.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Deeds Filed for Record.

The following transfers of real estate have been placed on file in the Recorder's office since our last report:

Joseph S. Byars to J. M. Welsh, April 1, 1875; lot on Third street, West Elizabeth. Price $1,200
Martha Boyd to Matthew Boyd, June 19, 1832; 68 acres 70 perches, in Pine township. Consideration.....nom.
Sheriff's Poll Deed to the Home Mutual Building and Loan Association, March 20, 1875; interest of Daniel Dillon in lot on Shaffer street, Thirteenth ward, city. Price.....$709
Joseph Lang to Joseph Debacher, August 6, 1874; lot on Sampson street, Allegheny. Price...$1,000
Joseph Mellon et al. to John Farnell, December 17, 1875; lot on Second street, Springdale township. Price.....$2,300
Matthew Boyle et ux. to Wm. Miller, March 23, 1839; 68 acres 70 perches in Pine township. Price.....$400
Alexander R. McClure et ux. to Alexander Haney, February 11, 1872; 6 acres 11 perches in Lincoln township. Price.....$734
Gottleb Wettach et ux. to Adam Weiss, November 13, 1875; lot on Spring Garden avenue, Reserve township. Price.....$3,000
Deed of assignment from John F. Wait to D. C. Huffman, December 21, 1875; lot on Fifth street, McKeesport. Consideration.....$1,000
John H. Welty et al. to Theodore Geiselhart, September 14, 1875; lot on Division street, Bellevue borough. Price.....$1,000
Michael White et ux. to M. L. Willets, November 28, 1874; lot on Ellsworth avenue, Twentieth ward, city. Price.....$1,600

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
No. 61 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh.
CHARTERED IN 1863.

Assets January 1, 1875, - $778,251.56.

OPEN DAILY from 9 to 4 o'clock, and SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, from 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of 6 per cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not drawn, compounded semi-annually, in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

Board of Managers—Thos. M. Berry, President; John Scott, Jas. Park, Jr., Vice Presidents; D. S. McKinley, Secretary and Treasurer.

A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schneeri, Christopher Ziegler, Jr.

Solicitor—JOHN H. BAILEY.

ELECTIONS.

GERMAN NAT. BANK OF PITTSBURGH, PA., PITTSBURGH, December 15, 1875.
ELECTION—THE ANNUAL ELECTION for nine Directors of this Bank to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, between the hours of eleven A. M. and two P. M.
j20 JOS. LAURENT, Cashier.

SMITHFIELD NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, Dec. 11, 1875.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR Directors will be held at the Bank, on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, from one to three P. M.
W. W. SCOTT, Cashier.

DUQUESNE NATIONAL BANK.—The annual election for ten Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, No. 95 Smithfield street, on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, between the hours of eleven A. M. and — P. M.
H. PATTERSON, Cashier.
PITTSBURGH, Dec. 16, 1875.

ELECTION—THIRD NATIONAL BANK.—The annual election for nine Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11th, between the hours of eleven A. M. and one P. M.
W. STEINMEYER, Cashier.
Pittsburgh, Dec. 11, 1875. y41

THIRD NATIONAL BANK, ALLEGHENY, Pa., Dec. 16, 1875.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 2 and 3 P. M.
H. A. SPANGLER, Acting Cashier.
de14-4ty

IRON CITY NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH, PITTSBURGH, December 10, 1875.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 2 and 3 P. M.
GEO. R. DUNCAN, Cashier.
de14

PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK—An Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at its Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.
F. M. GORDON, Cashier.
PITTSBURGH, December 11, 1875. de14

MECHANICS AND MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, December 11, 1875.
ELECTION—THE ANNUAL ELECTION for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M.
W. A. HERBERT, Cashier.

EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, December 10, 1875.
ELECTION—THE ANNUAL ELECTION for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, No. 46 Fifth avenue, on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 12 M.
A. LONG, Cashier.
j40

CITY NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, December 11, 1875.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, between the hours of eleven A. M. and two P. M.
J. W. TAYOR, Cashier.

SECOND NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH, PITTSBURGH, December 11, 1875.
ELECTION—THE ANNUAL election for nine Directors to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, between the hours of twelve M. and two P. M.
JAMES H. WILLOCK, Cashier.
j35

MECHANICS NATIONAL BANK.—The annual election for Directors will be held at the Bank, TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, from two till three P. M.
WM. R. THOMPSON, Cashier.

FARMERS' DEPOSIT NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, December 10, 1875.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1876, between the hours of 1 and 2 P. M.
S. GEORGE, JR., Cashier.
29:7

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, December 10, 1875.
ELECTION—THE ANNUAL ELECTION for nine Directors of this Bank, to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, between the hours of eleven A. M. and one P. M.
R. K. WILSON, Cashier.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR OF GAS AND GAS METERS FOR ALLEGHENY COUNTY.
DESIRING THAT THE PUBLIC should more generally avail themselves of the advantages of this office, I would give notice to persons desiring to have their meters tested to leave their orders at the offices of their respective Gas Companies, or at my office, corner of Twenty-third and Smallman streets, and they will receive prompt attention.
R. H. SMITH, Inspector.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FORTY-FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DOLLAR SAVINGS BANK, 124 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

LIABILITIES.

Amount due depositors Dec. 1st, 1875	$4,074,493 14	
Amount dividend from 1st, 1875	110,833 21	
Amount contingent fund, Dec. 1st, 1875	201,456 94	
Total liabilities		$4,386,783 29
ASSETS.		
Loans on Bonds and Mortgages	$3,033,297 83	
Mortgage interest due	18,080 56	
Stock in Pittsburgh banks	71,634 04	
U. S. Government bonds	800,600 00	
Real estate	151,730 42	
Bank furniture, safe, &c	13,071 95	
Cash in banks and on hand	299,658 49	
Total assets		$4,386,783 29

Present number of depositors 10,002, averaging $418.44 each.
DECEMBER 1st, 1875.
The undersigned Auditing Committee respectfully report, that they have examined the Treasurer's report for the last six months, ending November 30th, 1875, and have examined the assets of the bank, consisting of bonds and mortgages, deeds of real estate, certificates of bank stock, U. S. Government bonds, and the cash in banks (as per bank books) and on hand, and find the same to correspond with the above report.
GEO. D. BRUCE,
JAMES D. KELLY,
O. PHILLIPS,
RICHD HAYS,
Auditing Committee.
December 16, 1875.
The trustees have this day declared a dividend of three (3) per cent. for the six months ending November 30th, 1875, free of Government tax, and payable forthwith. If not drawn will bear interest from 1st inst.
CHAS. A. COLTON, Treasurer.
Pittsburgh, Dec. 17th, 1875. 67:5

GRAY'S FERRY PRINTING INK WORKS.
PRATT & ROBINSON,
8 Spruce street, New York.
ROBINSON & PRATT,
714 Sansom street, Philadelphia.
Printing Inks of every grade and color.
Clear Black News Ink for Hand and Power Presses.

FINANCIAL.

SHOE AND LEATHER BANK

Cor. Diamond and Wood Streets,

In Germania Bank Building,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

CAPITAL, ... $200,000.

D. B. DAVIDSON, President.
JOHN D. FRASER, Cashier.

Deposits received and 6 per cent. interest allowed on Time Deposits. Particular attention given to collections and proceeds promptly remitted.

ROBINSON BROTHERS

NO. 78 FOURTH AVENUE,

BANKERS.

Buy and sell on Commission GOVERNMENT BONDS, STATE AND CITY SECURITIES, RAILROAD BONDS AND STOCKS,

Especial attention paid to purchase and sale of all LOCAL SECURITIES of Pittsburgh and Allegheny.

FIRST CLASS REAL ESTATE MORTGAGES WANTED; ALSO $5,000 WARD SCHOOL BONDS

DAILY GAZETTE.

FINANCIAL.

Latest Advices Concerning Money and Stock Matters.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, } FRIDAY, Dec. 24, 1875.

The banks continue to be pressed with paper, and are still conservative as regards its acceptance. The preparation for first of January settlements occupies the attention of the people, and is, of course, the reason for the run upon the banks. It is not regarded as anything extraordinary that there should be a pressure at this time, and it is very confidently expected that with the first of January the pressure will pass away. The demand is of a character to indicate that there may be increased business when the strain of the year is done. The holiday trade is developing very nicely, and there is now good prospects that the demand for articles usually sold on such occasions will be about equal to the average of other years.

The liability of a bank for a check on itself drawn by one customer and accepted in the deposit of another is now contradictorily regarded by the courts. Until recently, the law stood unquestioned that a bank accepting such a check certified to its genuineness so far as to estop itself from subsequently raising any question with regard to its validity. The Supreme Court of California has recently given a decision antagonistic to this principle, as has been done previously by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. These decisions are believed to indicate the drift of judicial opinion. This foreshadows the general acceptance of the doctrine that a bank receiving a deposit of a check drawn upon itself receives it not as a cash deposit, but for the purposes of collection, and that the bank, by receiving it and entering it in the passbook of the depositor, does not deprive itself of the right subsequently to question the check and return it, if it be not made good, before the close of banking hours. The Pennsylvania case was that of the Union National Bank vs. P. S. Peterson & Co., and that in California the case of the National Gold Bank vs. McDonald. The cases are sufficiently described by the references above made to the point at issue.

The variance between the established law and the new decisions will be readily understood and justified when the variance of the old and new usage is pointed out. In the old days the cashier of the bank was the representative of the bank to its customers; he received the deposits, paid the checks, and kept himself fully informed of the condition of all the accounts kept with the bank. Now-a-days the cashier attends to more important but less active duties. There are receiving-tellers and paying tellers to discharge functions once united in the cashier. Custom has limited the duties and responsibilities of the receiving-teller. He passes only upon the manner and form of a deposit; its essential genuineness he does not have to decide. As an extreme case of this we may cite this practice: It is the custom in large banks, during busy hours, when a large amount of small bills is offered by a depositor, to take it at the amount he names, place a strap around it with his name on it, enter the amount to his credit, and if any deficit is found, or bad bills discovered in it, upon a more leisurely count, to call upon him to make the deposit good. In the later decisions, therefore, on the question of the liability of banks for checks deposited, the law has simply yielded, as it did generations ago in the case of bills of exchange, to the change in commercial usage.

New York, Boston and Philadelphia, according to the official figures, are adding more to the amount of their taxes than to the number of their tax-payers. This is progress in the wrong direction. Philadelphia has gained 39 per cent. in population between 1860 and 1875, while taxation has grown 317 per cent., or $8,001,253. The city now has, according to the Philadelphia *Ledger*, about $2,500,000 of unfunded debt, which warrants afloat. Taking the average in the cases of Boston, Philadelphia and New York, the taxes have increased about fourfold, and the population only one-sixteenth as much as taxation.

Robinson Brothers, Bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following quotations of bonds and stocks from the latest advices by telegraph:

Gold	115¾	5-20's 1865—coupon	112
U. S. 6's, coup	120¾	10-40's	114½
" 1864, all called		Currency 6's	122¼
" 1865	114¾	New 5 per cents	110
" 1881	120	10-40's—coupon	117½
5-20's 1867	121½		

RAILWAYS.

N. Y. Cen.	102¾	Ohio & Mississippi	15¾
Erie	18	Union Pacific	72
I. C.	96½	Toledo & Wabash	3½
C. C. & I. C.	8¾	Harlem	130
St. Paul	37½	Hudson	102
Do. Pref	65¾	American Express	56¾
Michigan Southern	89½	U. S. Express	49
Do. Central	93¾	W. Fargo & Co. Ex	86½
North Western Com	38½	Quicksilver	17¾
Do. Pref	56¾	Mail Co	93
Rock Island	101¾	Hannibal & St. Jos	20¾
Cleve. & Pitts	89½	Panama	125
Pacific Mail	39½	Iron Mountain	13¾
Western Union Tel.	72¾		

Robinson Brothers furnish the following quotations of active stocks from the Philadelphia Stock Board:

P. R. R. (S)	55¼	Cen. Trans (A)	46¾
Reading (S)	55¾	Empire Do (B)	22
U. Cos. of N. J. (B)	122¾	A. V. R. R. 7-30 (B)	95
Gold Coupons	15¾	P. C. Ast. L. 7's	—
Lehigh Valley			

NEW YORK, December 23, 1875.

Money loaned at 7 gold and 1-32, closing at 3; prime mercantile paper 6a8. The customs receipts were $252,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $324,000. The clearings were $21,000,000. Sterling exchange, bankers' bill, 485a488¼.

Gold opened at 113 3-8, declined to 112¼, and recovered to 113¾, at which it closed. The rates paid for carrying were 1, 3, 2, 3¼, 4, 5, 6, 7, and finally 3 per cent. Governments were weak and lower. Railroad bonds were quiet. State securities were steady. Stocks were strong and higher, with an advance of 1-4 to 1 1-4 per cent., and Lake Shore as a feature. There were free purchases of Pacific Mail on a report that Goodall & Nelson had withdrawn their line of steamers to Victoria, which leaves the entire carrying trade by steamers to British Columbia in the hands of the Pacific Mail Company. At the Stock Exchange this afternoon 45,000 shares of Lake Shore and 700 shares Western Union were bought in under the rule for account of Geo. Dickinson, an operator on the bear side of the market. The transactions aggregated 159,000 shares, of which 13,000 were Pacific Mail, 18,000 Western Union, 61,000 Lake Shore, and 5,000 Michigan Central.

Governments.—U. S. coupons of 1881, 123¾; do of '65, 114¾; do new, 119¾; do of '67, 121¾; do of '68, 116¼; 10-40s registered, 116½; do coupons, 117¼; currency 6s, 123½.

State Bonds.—Tennessee, 6s, old, 40½; do 6s, new, 38½; Virginia, old, 37; do new, 38; Missouri 6s, 102¾.

Stocks.—Western Union Telegraph, 72¾; Pacific Mail, 39½; Mariposa, 9; Mariposa preferred, 9½; Adams Express, 101; Pango Express, 86; American Express, 56½; U. S. Express, 60; New York Central, 103¾; Erie, 15½; do preferred, 31; Harlem, 130; do preferred, 130; Michigan Central, 59½; Panama, 125; Union Pacific, 72; Lake Shore, 59½; Indiana Central, 10¾; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, 114½; Hannibal & St. Joseph, 120½; Central Pacific bonds, 107; Union Pacific bonds, 105; Union Pacific land grants, 103½; Union Pacific sinking fund bonds, 93; Illinois Central, 96½, Cleveland & Pittsburgh, 89½; Northwestern, 38½; preferred, 55; C. C. C. & I., 38; New Jersey Central, 105; Rock Island, 103½; St. Paul, 34½; preferred, 65½; Wabash, 8½; do preferred, 5; Fort Wayne, 97; Terre Haute, 5; do preferred, 20; Chicago & Alton, 97½; preferred 105½; Ohio & Mississippi, 16; Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, 120; Atlantic & Pacific, 18.

LONDON, December 23—5 P. M.—The bullion in the Bank of England decreased £907,000 in the past week. The proportion of bank reserve to liability is 41½ per cent. The amount of bullion withdrawn on balance to-day was £870,000. The rate of discount in open market for three month bills is 2½ per cent., being ½ below the Bank of England rate. Consols: money 93 3-16; account 93 15-16 to 94; new 5s, 99¼.

COMMERCIAL.

Condition of the Markets at Home and Abroad.

DAILY REPORT OF PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, } THURSDAY, December 23, 1875.

General business continues dull, and our merchants do not expect to do much during the remainder of the year. The demand for all leading staples is light, restricted to supplying immediate actual wants, while in regard to values, there has been little if any change for some days past.

APPLES—The market continues quiet, and while the receipts have been light for some weeks, the supply is considerably in excess of the present wants, selling in a jobbing way at $2,75a3,75 ₱ bbl for common to fair, and $4,50a5,75 for prime to choice.

APPLE BUTTER—70a75c ₱ gallon.

BUTTER—Dealers nearly all report a good demand for the table, Butter, and there has an increased movement in the common grades, but no improvement in prices; sales of prime to choice rolls at 28a30c ₱ lb; medium to good, 24a27c; common, 12a15c.

CANNAS—In large supply and dull, but it is thought prices have reached the lowest notch; Sales of navies to the trade at $1,25 ₱ bushel, and in a jobbing way at $1,40a1,50.

CRANBERRIES—$10 to $11 ₱ barrel.

CHEESE—The market continues dull, and prices are easy; we quote Ohio Factory, 13¼a14 cents; do. New York, 14a14½c.

CIDER—Dull; 4½a7 ₱ bbl.

DRIED FRUIT—There is a fair local consumptive demand, and prices are steady but unchanged. Apples quoted 9@9½c per quarter and 12a12½c for sliced; Peaches (new) halves, 12a14c; peeled, 19 a20c. Blackberries, 12a12½c, and dull. Pitted Cherries, 25a27c; unpitted, 5a6c.

EGGS—Fresh still quoted at 28a30c, and pickled at 20a25c.

FLOUR—We have to report a continued dull market, without, however, and quotable change in prices. Spring Wheat Flours, $6,40a6,50 for Minnesotas; $6,75a7,00 for Minnesotas; red winters, $6a6,50 for new and $6,75a7 for old. Rye Flour, $5,25,25. Buckwheat Flour, 3¾a4 ₱ lb.

GROCERIES—Trade continues dull, and devoid of anything new or important. Our latest advices from the seaboard continue to report Coffee dull and weak, with indications favorable to still further decline in prices. Stocks in first hands in New York, 142,255 bags, and at all the ports, 236,371 bags. Including 3,000 bags at Galveston, 8,000 bags at Hampton Roads, 3,200 bags in Richmond, 2,000 bags at Savannah, 14,389 bags at New Orleans, [illegible] bags at Mobile and 3,100 bags at Mobile. The amount of Rio and Santos afloat and loading for the United States is 112,300 bags, and the purchases for the United States to December 18th were 322,000 bags. Sugars, Molasses and Syrups, quiet and unchanged.

SUGARS.

Cut Loaf	12½	Standard B	10¾
Crushed	11¾	Standard Ex C	10¾
Granulated	10¾	Refined Extra Yellow	8@9¼
Powdered	11¾	N. O. new crop	8¾@9¾
Standard A	10¾		

COFFEES.

Fancy Rio	26	R. Rio, lb pkgs	23½
Prime Rio	24½@25	R. Rio, loose	23
Good Rio	23 @24	Roasted Java	40
Old Gov. Java	34		

RICE.

Carolina	8	Rangoon	7

TEAS.

Young Hyson	45 @1 00	Japan	40 @ 85
Gunpowder	60 @1 10	Oolong	35 @ 85
Imperial	50 @1 00	Souchong	35 @ 75

FRUITS.

Val. Raisins, per lb	11¾	Turkish Prunes	8 @ 9
L. L. Raisins, per box	2 50	French Prunes	10 @ 11
Currents, per lb	8		

SYRUPS.

Choice	70 @75	Pair	55 @60
Prime	65 @70	Common	45 @50

MOLASSES.

N. O. choice	70	N. O. strictly prime	68
N. O. prime	65	Demarara	50@55

SOAPS.

Best Wax	7¾	Babbitt's Best, per box	7 25
Family Mottled	5¾	White Russian, per box	6 00
Woman's Friend	5¾		
Duchess, per box	3 50		

GLASS—Is in good demand for the season, retailed by the soft weather, and prices favor buyers. Venison saddles, 17a18c; Prairie Chickens, $4a4,25 ₱ dozen; Pheasants, $3,25a3,75; Quails, $1,50a2; Squirrels, $1a1,25; Rabbits, 25a35c ₱ pair.

GRAIN—Our merchants generally continue to report trade as being quite dull, and no improvement is expected. The market for Wheat continues at previous quotations; new Penna. and Ohio red, $1,29a1,30 for fair to choice; amber, $1,27a1,28; white, $1,30a1,40; northwestern red, $1,33a1,35. The Oat market continues quiet and unchanged, mainly for small lots—prices unchanged; Penna. and Ohio mixed, 39a40c; ditto white, 42a43c; prime western white, 44a45c. New Barley is largely substituted in the room of Oats, and we hear of a sale; old Shelled, free in elevator, at 63@64c for prime yellow. Rye is quiet, but unchanged at 80a 83c. Strictly bright No. 1 Barley, $1,20a1,25—of color, 90a$1,10, according to quality and condition.

HAY—Prices are selling from country wagons at $17a22 per ton, according to quality. Baled is quoted at $12a13 for upland prairie; timothy, $17a20 in car load lots, and $19a22.

HEMP—Dull at $155a160 ₱ ton.

HOPS—$1,50a4,75 ₱ barrel.

MILL FEED—Is in good demand and dull, with a supply considerably in excess of present wants. Quotations, on wharf and track for car load lots, may be given as follows: Bran, $14a15 per ton; Shipstuffs, Seconds and Shorts, $16a18 Middlings and Chopped Feed, $20a22.

ONIONS—The market is largely overstocked, and there is no improvement in the demand—quotable in a jobbing way at $1,25a1,50 per bbl.

POTATOES—Market steady, with a supply just about equal to the demand. Peach Blows—in car-load lots, 32a35 ₱ bushel; other kinds, 25a30c.

PROVISIONS—The market continues dull, and prices are easy but without important change. Hogs are lower now than they have been this season.

Hams—Extra S. C. per lb	16	Lard, Prime Leaf in tierces, per lb	10¾
Shoulders, Ex. S. C	11¾	Do. half barrels	11¾
Do. Sugar Cured	13¾	Lard, Ref. for Export use, in tierces	—
Beef Tongues, S. C. per doz	—	Do. in ½ bbls	—
Bacon Shoulders	10¾	Do. in 3 lb cadies	10¾
Do. Sides	13¾	Do. 5 lb do	10¾
Rib Sides	13¾	Do. 3 lb pails	11¾
Short Rib do	13	Do. 5 lb do	11¾
Clear Sides	16	Do. 6 lb do	17
Mess Pork, per bbl	20 50	Ham Sausage	10
Family Mess Pork	22 50	Carbon Oil	—
Short Cut	21 50	Cheese	—

HAGS—Good inferior to prime, 4a5c.

SEEDS—Not enough doing to establish rates. Flax Seed nominal at $1,50a1,60; Timothy, $2,25a 2,50; Clover, $7a7,75.

TALLOW—City Rendered, 9¾a10.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, } THURSDAY, December 23, 1875.

ARRIVALS.

Following shows the arrivals of each day during the week, as well as the aggregate, and the aggregate of the preceding week:

	Cattle. Through.	Local.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Friday	26 cars.	— cars.	25 cars.	5 cars.
Saturday	20 "	2 "	20 "	15 "
Monday	29 "	29 "	53 "	11 "
Tuesday	8 "	10 "	13 "	8 "
Wednesday	22 "	22 "	36 "	5 "
Wednesday	6 "	29 "	26 "	14 "
Thursday	2 "	9 "	23 "	10 "
Total	120	100	213	101
Last week	192	165	147	90

CATTLE.

The most noticeable feature in the market during the past week was the very decided falling off in the receipts of cattle, and while there was a fair improvement in the common and medium grades, and we do no believe there there was a general advance even for the very best. The tendency of prices, we think, is upward, the largest substitute in packing for beef, that but few cattle will be wanted next week, and the number of country buyers was less than at any time this season. The market, as a whole, was a very dull and unsatisfactory one to owners, and but for the very meagre supply it would have been, in all probability, the hardest of the season. Drovers, generally, lost money—some of them a good deal; we heard of one drove of Ohio cattle having sold $15,80 which cost 6¼c pt home.

The highest price reported was $4,80 for two extra oxen, and 6½c for seven head. There were some Christmas cattle on sale, but there was no demand for them at fancy prices. A Greensward had two choice Christmas steers, for weights or owners to suit purchasers, but being unable to get a price that would let him on, he shipped them on to New York. Butchers, in the present depressed condition of business, cannot afford to pay fancy prices for extra fed stock, and pains-taking feeders have no encouragement for keeping their cattle until fully fat, except the satisfaction of furnishing the best stock for the market, and a reputation among the trade which insures a ready sale for their cattle.

QUOTATIONS.

Extra 1100@1200 lbs	5,20@5,60
Prime 900@1100 lbs	4,70@5,00
Good 800@850 lbs	4,25@4,50
Fair 700@750 lbs	3,75@4,00
Common 700@75 lbs	3,25@3,50

HOGS.

The supply has been larger than during any previous week for months past, and with not unfavorable weather, adverse reports from all points, both east and west, a very light demand and a stronger condition to realize, the market has been very dull and heavy and prices are lower, that is for the best grades, than at any time this year. It is said that the packers will not give more than 3½ cwt lower than they were at the corresponding time last year, and with quite a number in the yards unwilling to pay this moderate demand, the tendency is still downward. A good deal depends upon the weather; if it should turn cold there will doubtless be a packers' whirl in the next 24 hours, at least the downward course would be checked, as it is almost certain that the arrivals will fall off, but if it should continue warm and unfavorable for packing, prices will doubtless go still lower. Philadelphia hogs were quoted today at 4¾a5c. Yorkers at 4,90a5,05; roughs, 3,85a 4,25. Secretary of the Fork Packers' Association furnishes the following statement of the number of hogs cut and packed in the west from Nov. 1 to date with the usual comparisons:

	To date. 1875-76.	To date. 1874-75.	Total packing 1873-74.
Chicago	876,153	834,482	1,696,248
Cincinnati	295,377	295,787	580,164
St. Louis	158,000	275,000	462,248
Louisville	145,000	255,731	274,118
Milwaukee	85,567	142,812	226,688
Indianapolis	157,710	200,000	278,338
Total	717,807	1,003,812	1,121,765

The returns generally report the hogs handed of better quality—15 to 20 lbs—except in southern Ohio. Some interior points in Ohio and Indiana report they will close operations next week, with a lighter business than last year. At interior points in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri hogs are arriving more freely. The points reported above show a shortage in number of about 320,000 hogs—as compared with same time last year.

PITTSBURGH PETROLEUM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, } THURSDAY, December 23, 1875.

The Crude market was reported quiet and easier to-day, with but little change in prices. United certificates, quoted at $1,45, and immediate shipment at $1,74¾. It is probable that trade in the raw article will continue quiet until after the holidays. Refined also continues very quiet; Philadelphia delivery quotable at 12¾c on cars here, 9¾a 9¾c. Exporters are doing little or nothing, which may be attributed mainly to the continued scarcity of vessels. Cleveland, it is said, is shipping little or no oil eastward, but she always has a good western trade at this season of the year.

The Barrel market continues dull, with scarcely enough doing to establish prices.

SHIPMENTS CRUDE OIL VIA ALLEGHENY VALLEY R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Citizens	Citizens	86

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, } THURSDAY, Dec. 23, 1875.

Corrected by HARRIS & FOX, Wholesale Druggists, corner Liberty and Tenth streets.

Acac., sorts	20a 30	Oil, Anise	$4,00a4,20 lb
" 2d select	35a 40	Bergm	3,50,600 lb
" 1st select	40a 50	Casia	2,00a2,20 lb
Acid, Citric	1,05a1,12 lb	Castor	18 a19 lb
" Oxalic	17a 20 lb	Lemon	4,75a5,00 lb
" Tartaric	44a 49 lb	Linseed R	60a65 gal
Alcohol	2,82,80 gal	Linseed B	65a70 gal
Aloes, cape	18a 20 lb	Neatsfoot	90a1,25 gal
" A Barb	40a 60 lb	Olive	1,25a2,00doz
" Socot		" Qts	6,25a8,50doz
Alum	3¾a 4¼ lb	" Pts	3,25a4,00doz
Amm., Aq	8a 12 lb	Orange	2,50a3,00 lb
" Carb	20a 22 lb	Origanum	70a1,20 lb
Arabia, Fior	30a 35 lb	Pennyroyl	2,50 lb
Assafœtida	25a 30 lb	Peppermint	5,00a5,50 lb
Bals. Copaib	95a1,00 lb	Sassafras	90a1,00 lb
" Canada	75a 75 lb	Wintergr	4,00a4,15 lb
Bay Rum	2,75a4,00 gal	Pot. Bi Carb	35 lb
Bi. Sub car	2,25a2,60 lb	Bi Chrom	24a25 lb
Sub nit	2,00a2,25 lb	Bromide	45a 75 lb
Blue Mass	72 lb	Chlorate	30a 37 lb
" Vitriol	11a 12 lb	Iodid	4,00a4,25 lb
Borax, ref'd	15a 18 lb	Quinine	2,30a2,40 oz
Brim., Soft	4¾a 5¾ lb	Root, Gent	8 a12 lb
" Flor. sulp	3a 5 lb	Gin. E. I	18 lb
Buchu	16a 25 lb	Gin. Jam	28a30 lb
Calomel Am	1,27 lb	Ipecac F	1,85 lb
Camphor ref	80a 90 lb	Jalap P	50a60 lb
Camwood	8a 9 lb	Rhubarb	1,00a1,50 lb
Chamo. Ger	60 lb	" Pow	1,00a1,50 lb
Cloves	25 lb	Sar. Hond	65 lb
Chlorpl Hyd	1,80 lb	Sar. Mex	38 lb
Chlorofor	1,05a1,20 lb	Senega	1,70 lb
Cinchg. Pale	70a 80 lb	Spigelia	46 lb
" Red	1,20a1,30 lb	Val. Eng	38 lb
Yellow	20a 40 lb	" Ger	25 lb
Cochineal	65a 75 lb	Saffron Am	60a1,00 lb
Copperas	2a 3 lb	Sal Ammon	14a 16 lb
Cream Tar	40a 45 lb	Epsom	3a 4 lb
Cubebs	15a 20 lb	Glauber	2¼a 3 lb
Dovers Pow'd	1,65a1,75 lb	Rochelle	38 lb
Ergot	1,15a1,25 lb	Soda	2a 2½ lb
Ether, Nit	47a 49 lb	Sod. Carb	1¾a 1¾ lb
Sul	72a 74 lb	Cardam	2,30 lb
Flor. Lovg	1,15a1,25 lb	" Fls	2,25a2,50 lb
Liqu. Cal	38a 45 lb	Mustard	8a 10
" Ital	25a 30 lb	Senna, Alex	22a 25 lb
Fustic	3a 4 lb	" Fls	25a 30 lb
Glycer. Pure	20a 30 lb	Tinnev	28 lb
Flowers	25 lb	Shellac	48a 52 lb
Indigo, Man	1,00a1,20 lb	Soap, Castile	11a 13 lb
" S. F.	1,10a1,25 lb	" White	12a 21 lb
Iodine	4,00a4,25 lb	Soda Ash	4a 5 lb
Iodoform	85 gal	Bi Carb	5a 6 lb
Juniper Ber	7a 9 lb	Strych. Cry	2,95a3,00 oz
Logwood	23a 24 lb	Sulphate	2,25a2,75 qr
Madder	12a 17 lb	Sugar Lead	24a 28 lb
Magnes, Cal	80a1,00 lb	Turpen. spts	47a 52 gal
" Carb	30a 35 lb	Var. Comch	1,65a1,75 lb
Manna, Fla	97 lb	Copal	1,25a2,00 gal
Morph. Sul	4,40a4,60 z	Damar	1,50a1,80 gal
Nit. Silver	58a 60	Mastic	80a1,00 lb
Opium	7,00a7,40 lb	Venet. Red	2¼a 4½ lb
Powd	9,25a9,80 lb	Whiting	¾a 2¾ lb

New York Wool Market.

The main business reported thus far this week has been in Texas and California Wool, and in scoured stock. The inquiry for manufacturing purposes has been fair, but not urgent. California Spring and Eastern Texas quoted rather weaker at most other kinds, without important alteration as to values. Domestic Fleeces and Pulled, of desirable quality, continually quoted firm. Foreign, of fair to high grade product quiet. Sales have reported, since our last, of equal to 12,000 lb Domestic Fleece, in lots, part at 45a46c; 19,000 lb Scoured at 90c; 17,000 lb of Texas, part at 38c, but mainly on private terms; 40 bales California Pull at 18c; 24,000 lb California Spring at 23a25c, chiefly at 23a32½c; 100 bales East India at 24c; 1,000 lb Donskoi, private terms, and 16 bales Mexican Nolls at 45c ₱ lb.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 23, 1875.

FLOUR—Dull.

GRAIN—Wheat in fair demand, but at lower rates; No. 2 Chicago spring 86c bid spot; 86¼c January; 87¼c February; No. 3 Chicago spring 78½@78¾c; rejected 65½c. Corn unsettled and generally higher; No. 2 48c spot; 47¾c bid December; 43¾c bid January; 43¾c bid February. Oats steady and unchanged. Rye quiet and unchanged. Barley in fair demand at lower rates; 1@2c lower; 82¼c spot; 83c December; 81c February.

PROVISIONS—Inactive, lungs quiet and weak; $7,50@7,90. Pork dull and heavy; $19,05 spot, $19,22½@19,35 February. Lard easier, but not quotably lower; $12,37½ spot; $12,37½@12,40 February. Bulk meats steady and unchanged.

WHISKY—$1,10.

On Call Board, wheat was easier; 86¼c January; 87¼c February. Corn firm; 47¾@47¾c December; 43¾c January. Oats unchanged. Pork steady; $19,05@19,10 cash; $19,35 February. Lard easier; $12,17½ cash; $12,37½@12,40 February.

New York.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Flour: receipts 13,000 barrels; in limited export and home trade demand; superfine States and western $4,30@4,75; common to fair extra State $5,00@5,25; good to choice do $5,35@6; white wheat extra $6,05@7,75; extra Ohio $5,10@7,40; St. Louis $5,25@6,90; Minnesota, patent process, and for fair to fancy spring, $6,75@7,25; choice to double extra $7,30@9. Rye flour quiet but steady at $4,40@5,50. Corn meal quiet; western $4,20@5,60. Wheat dull and slightly in buyers' favor; receipts 87,000 bush; No. 2 Chicago spring $1,19@1,20; No. 1 red winter $1,24@1,25; No. 2 do $1,21; Chicago spring $1; No. 2 Milwaukee $1,23@1,24; No. 3 Milwaukee $1,10; winter red western new $1,30@1,32; white Michigan $1,31; No. 1 spring $1,33@1,34; ungraded do $1,02@1,31. Rye quiet; western 88@90c; State 95c; Canada in bond 90c. Barley dull and heavy; good to prime 85a90c. Malt quiet and heavy. Corn heavy and lower; receipts 23,000 bushels; western mixed sail 73@73½c; low mixed 65a66c; new western mixed 71a72c; new western 69@67c; white western 65c. Oats easier and more active; receipts 28,000 bushels; mixed Western and State 46a49c; white do 49a52c. Hay unchanged. Hops firm; eastern, western and New York State 10@18c; California 17@20c. Coffee: Rio easier but in good demand; cargoes 17@19½c; jobbing at 17¾@20½c. Sugar dull; fair to good refining 8@8½c; prime 8¾c; refined 10@10¼c. Molasses: New Orleans easier at 55@60c. Rice quiet and unchanged. Petroleum easier; crude 7¾c; refined 12¾@12¾c for strained. Rosin heavy at $1,65@1,75. Spirits turpentine quiet at 36½c. Eggs unchanged. Pork firm and unchanged. Beef dull; mess jobbing at $20,75@21; old $20,65. Cut meats quiet; western long clear middles 10¾c; city do 10¾c. Lard heavy; prime steam 12¾@13c. Butter: western 14@22c; State 22@31c. Whisky easier at $1,15¾c.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—Flour inactive, with no demand except for local dealers; Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota extra $4,75@5,50; State, Ohio and Indiana $5,00@5,75; high grades $5,75@6,25. Wheat firm; Penn'sylvania red $1,40; western do $1,36@1,37; amber $1,40@1,45; white 90c. Corn steady; prime new and old steady; yellow old 70@72c; do new 58@59c; mixed old 69@70c. Oats in moderate request; mixed 41@42c; white 47@48c. Whisky; iron-bound $1,15. Petroleum nominally changed. Flaxseed $1,53@1,55. Butter quiet and unchanged. Cheese firm; fine western 12½@13c. Eggs firmly held; fresh western 30 @31c.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, December 23.—Cotton dull and lower; sales of 900 bales; middling 12 5-16c; low middling 12 3-16c; good ordinary 11¾c. Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat dull; No. 2 red fall $1,40@1,41; cash; $1,41¾; No. 3 $1,27 bid cash. Corn dull and lower; No. 2 mixed 37½c cash; 40¾@41c December. Oats dull; No. 2 24½c bid cash; 32¼@32¾c January. Rye steady and firm; No. 2 67c. Barley quiet and unchanged. Whisky quiet and unchanged; $1,11. Pork dull; small lots $19,75@20. Lard quiet at 12¾c. Bulk meats dull, with little disposition to operate; 7, 10¾@10¾c. Bacon dull and unchanged. Green meats nominally lower; 6¾, 9¾, 10@10¼c.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—Cotton dull at 12¾c. Flour dull. Wheat quiet and steady; $1,28 @1,31. Corn easier at 47@48c. Oats dull and lower; 43c. Rye quiet and steady; 78@80c. Barley quiet and nominal. Pork quiet; sales of prime mess at $20,50. Lard quiet; steam $12,31½@12,35; kettle 13 @13½c. Bulk meats quiet; sales Cumberland at 10½c spot; rib 10¾c; long clears 11c, all boxed. Bacon quiet and unchanged. Green meats easier; shoulders 8¾@8¾c; clear rib 9¾@9¾c; clear 10c. Whisky in good demand at $1,11. Butter steady and unchanged.

Foreign.

LONDON, December 23.—Refined petroleum 12¾d. Linseed oil 24s@24½s. Spirits Turpentine 29@29½s.

LIVERPOOL December 23.—Cotton quiet; middling uplands 6 15-16d; middling Orleans 7 4-16d; sales of 10,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for speculation and export; 500 American. Breadstuffs firmer 92s. Bacon: long clear middles 53½s; short clear 51s. Linseed oil 26@26½s.

Toledo.

TOLEDO, December 23.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat dull; No. 2 white Wabash $1,38@ 1,40; No. 1 white Michigan $1,38; amber Michigan $1,37½; No. 2 amber $1,32; rejected $1,27. Corn steady and in moderate demand; high mixed new spot and seller December 48c; low mixed 48@49c; high to grade 44½; damaged new 36c. Oats dull and unchanged.

Milwaukee.

MILWAUKEE, December 23.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat steady; No. 1 new $1,05; No. 2 $1 04½; hard $1,10½; No. 2 spring No. 3 82½c. Corn quiet and firm; No. 2 mixed 53c. Oats firm and lower; No. 2 31@31½c. Barley demoralized; No. 2 spring 96½c; No. 3 66@64c. Rye lower and quiet; 72@72½c.

Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, December 23.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat quiet and firm; unchanged. Corn easier; western mixed spot 49½@50c; seller January 49½c. Oats dull and steady; crude 76@74c; refined 53c. Coffee: Rio dull and heavy; cargoes 17¾@ 19½c; jobbing 17¾@20½c. Whisky dull and heavy at $1,13½@1,15.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 23.—Cotton quiet at 12¾@12¾c. Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat quiet at $1,04@1,10. Corn firm at 45@50c. Oats quiet at 28@42c. Rye quiet and firm at 78@80c. Pork $21,50. Bulk meats 8¾, 10¾@11c, loose, held; prime steam 14½c; kegs 14¾@15c. Whisky steady and in moderate demand at $1,05.

Boston.

BOSTON, December 23.—Flour in limited demand; western superfine $4,25@4,75; common extras $5,00@5,75; Wisconsin extras $5,50@6,25; Minnesota do $5,00@6,75; winter wheat Ohio, Indiana and Michigan $6@7,25; Illinois $5,25@5,50; St. Louis $7@9; fancy Minnesota $7,75@9,25.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 23.—Cotton dull at 12½c; sales 2,000 bales; receipts 3,500 bales; shipments 6,000 bales; stock 17,000. Other markets quiet and unchanged.

Oswego.

OSWEGO, December 23.—Wheat quiet; No. 1 Milwaukee Club $1,28; extra white Michigan $1,35. Corn unchanged. Barley quiet.

New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, December 23.—Corn quiet at 50¾c. Hay quiet; prime $25; choice $26. Dry salt shoulders 8¾c. Others unchanged.

Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, December 23.—Petroleum firm; no change from last quotations; demand heavy.

Live Stock.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Beeves: receipts 770 head, making 2,620 for three days, against 2,890 same time last week; market exceedingly dull at a decline from Monday of ½c; common and ordinary Texas cattle 6@7c; common to prime native steers 8@12c, and fancy 12½@12¾c; premium 13@ 13¾c, including 20 Christmas steers 1 950 lbs from the Gilletthead at 13¾c. Sheep and lambs: receipts 3,470 head, making 8,470 for three days, against 11,800 same time last week; market dull and weak, with a reduction of ¼c on heavy stock; ordinary to premium sheep 5@5¾c, with a few good to fancy lambs at 7@7¾c. Swine: arrivals 4,250 head, making 9,990 for three days, against 9,350 same time last week; none on sale alive; a couple car loads fair corn fed Ohio hogs sold yesterday at 7½c; dressed closed lower and in fair demand at 8¾@ 9¼c for city.

CHICAGO, December 23.—Cattle: receipts 1,500 head; market dull and prices nominal; shipping steers $4,50@5,75; feeders $2,80@4,35; stockers $2,75@3,50; shipments 1,200. Hogs: receipts 15,000 head; market dull and weak; sales

HOME NEWS.

Investigation at the Reform School.

The managers of the Pennsylvania Reform School have just closed an investigation at that institution. Certain charges were considered which included neglect and abuse of inmates and want of Christian influence on the part of the officers. After a careful and patient hearing of the charges and examination of the complainants, officers, inmates and others under oath, the Investigating Committee have reported unanimously that the charges have not been sustained, and there is no foundation for the statement made.

Soup for the Poor.

Mr. P. F. Schuchman, a grocer on Twelfth street, South Side, has, with commendable generosity, imposed upon himself considerable trouble and expense in procuring a soup apparatus with the assistance of which he expects to relieve in a measure the hunger of the suffering poor on the South Side. At noon to-morrow he will distribute forty gallons of good, satisfying soup as his Christmas gift to the needy, and when the holidays are over he will distribute every Sunday at noon the same quantity. Mr. Schuman is undoubtedly a "soup-erior" man.

Failure.

A special meeting of Select Council was called yesterday afternoon to consider the Act of Assembly providing for a reduction in the number of the members of that body, but it failed to get a quorum. The following gentlemen were present, but they were not enough to constitute a quorum and accordingly adjourned until Monday, the regular day of meeting: Messrs. Ahlborn, Barckley, Brown, Carr, Clark, Dannels, B. Darlington, Doyle, Epping, Evans, Fahnestock, Finley, Fox, Froehlich, Harrison, Holliday, Hunter, Geigert, Kerr, Littell, Metzgar, Meyer, Moore, Murray, Musgrave, McCandless, McClurg, O'Neil, Ray, Rodgers, Sawyer, Shipton, Taylor, Weldon and President Gross.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS.

The Arrangements Made for Commemorating the Anniversary.

The approach of Christmas has awakened the holiday spirit, and extensive preparations are being made to properly celebrate the day. The opening note of the commemoration of the day will be heard this evening in the churches where the annual festival will be held. Among the prospective services we have heard of we note that at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, on Grant street, commencing at a quarter to seven o'clock, there will be carols, hymns and public catechising of the children. The church is beautifully trimmed by the earnest people of the congregation. Among the decorations is a superb Christmas tree.

Christmas day there will be services at this church, commencing at a quarter to eleven o'clock in the morning. The rector, Dr. Spaulding, will officiate, and there will be the administration of the Holy Communion.

Christmas Eve will be duly celebrated at the Smithfield street and Liberty street M. E. Sunday Schools, with appropriate exercises. In nearly all the churches, however, arrangements have been made, although we have not heard of any definite programme from others, except those mentioned.

There will be no "midnight mass" at the Cathedral this year. Services will take place at five o'clock in the morning, and the Cathedral will be beautifully decorated, the altars illuminated with myriads of gas jets, the lights forming appropriate inscriptions, while the choir will perform the music of the best masters. The cross and star on the two spires of the edifice, which are surrounded by lines of gas jets, will also be lighted up for the occasion. St. Cecelia Silver Cornet Band, John Walker, leader, will participate in the musical part of the services.

Arrangements have been made for a good time on Christmas Day at the Allegheny City Home. In the morning the children at the Home, some fifty in number, will have a feast of sweetmeats. At noon a turkey dinner, provided by the directors as ours out of their individual pockets will be served up to all the inmates. In the afternoon a juvenile concert will be given by the children of the Allegheny Orphan Asylum.

HIGH SCHOOL LECTURES.

"The Foundation Stones of Chemical Physics."

Another of the lectures in the High School course was delivered last evening by Prof. L. H. Durling, the title of his discourse being "The Foundation Stones of Chemical Physics."

After some preliminary remarks the Professor, demonstrated by experiments, that all matter, whether solid, liquid, or gaseous, expands when heat is applied, or contracts when it is withdrawn; and that in some cases this expansion is wonderfully great—as when water is changed into steam. To explain this, there are two theories. The first is that on the application of heat or other agency, matter may become more and more attenuated, or it will expand, but in such a manner that it continues to *completely fill all the space* which it seems to occupy. The second theory, it is assumed that matter is not continuous, but is made up of wonderfully minute particles called molecules, and these molecules are separated by spaces; upon these spaces being enlarged or diminished, matter expands or contracts.

By a number of experiments he then showed that the first theory failed to furnish any solution for entire classes of phenomena, while the second furnishes a simple and satisfactory solution in all cases. This second theory—the Molecular Theory—is now almost universally received by scientists. In a logical manner the speaker then explained this theory, bringing out the following points:

1st. That all matter consists of exceedingly minute particles, called molecules.

2d. That these molecules are separated by spaces, which may be increased or diminished.

3d. That they are the seat of various forces, one of which is *cohesion*, having the tendency to bind them firmly to each other; another force is *repulsion*, which tends to drive them asunder.

4th. That upon the comparative strength of these two forces depends the physical form of matter.

5th. That these molecules are always in motion.

The nature of solid, liquid and gaseous bodies was next considered, and their characteristic features developed step by experiment or by diagrams, after which he closed by asserting that physics and chemistry show that in the domain of the wonderfully minute, as beautiful and as infallible law exists as in the domain of astronomy; and that while the latter deals in almost incomprehensibly great magnitudes, the former deals with magnitudes so minute as to tax our powers equally much in their endeavor to grasp the wonderful microcosm in which we live and move.

The apparatuses used by the Professor to illustrate the lecture were obtained especially for the occasion, and served their purpose admirably.

The attendance was very meagre, and the receipts correspondingly slim. It is a matter of sincere regret that the citizens of Pittsburgh do not better appreciate and support these efforts for the advancement of the community in scientific knowledge. The next lecture in the course will be given on the evening of the 6th prox., and it is to be hoped that a larger attendance will evidence an increased interest in the objects of the course.

BREVITIES.

Paragraphic Pencilings of Passing Events.

....The residence of Peter Brickel, at No. 68 Nineteenth street, South Side, was robbed on Wednesday evening of $75.

....The funeral of Mrs. Love, who was killed at Edgeworth Station, Tuesday evening, took place yesterday. No inquest was held, the family being averse to it.

....Dr. Isaac Jackson, of Brownsville, Fayette county, assisted by Drs. Duncan, Shoemaker and Truxall, performed a difficult surgical operation on the 21st inst., in that county on the ulcerous where the annual festival will be held. Among the prospective services we have heard of we note that at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, on Grant street, commencing at a quarter to seven o'clock, there will be carols, hymns and public catechising of the children. The church is beautifully trimmed by the earnest people of the congregation. Among the decorations is a superb Christmas tree.

Christmas day there will be services at this church, commencing at a quarter to eleven o'clock in the morning. The rector, Dr. Spaulding, will officiate, and there will be the administration of the Holy Communion.

Christmas Eve will be duly celebrated at the Smithfield street and Liberty street M. E. Sunday Schools, with appropriate exercises. In nearly all the churches, however, arrangements have been made, although we have not heard of any definite programme from others, except those mentioned.

There will be no "midnight mass" at the Cathedral this year. Services will take place at five o'clock in the morning, and the Cathedral will be beautifully decorated, the altars illuminated with myriads of gas jets, the lights forming appropriate inscriptions, while the choir will perform the music of the best masters. The cross and star on the two spires of the edifice, which are surrounded by lines of gas jets, will also be lighted up for the occasion. St. Cecelia Silver Cornet Band, John Walker, leader, will participate in the musical part of the services.

Arrangements have been made for a good time on Christmas Day at the Allegheny City Home. In the morning the children at the Home, some fifty in number, will have a feast of sweetmeats. At noon a turkey dinner, provided by the directors as ours out of their individual pockets will be served up to all the inmates. In the afternoon a juvenile concert will be given by the children of the Allegheny Orphan Asylum.

....Dr. Isaac Jackson, of Brownsville, Fayette county, assisted by Drs. Duncan, Shoemaker and Truxall, performed a difficult surgical operation on the 21st inst., in that county on the amputation of a diseased foot of Mrs. Louisa Leclere, quite an aged lady.

....The miners of Pool No. 1, on the Monongahela river, who are on a strike for three cents a bushel, held a meeting at Elizabeth on Wednesday and endeavored but unsuccessfully to get the diggers in the mines of Walton, O'Neil, Hughes, Roberts and Jones to join them. Another meeting will be held on Monday.

....The *Christmas Casket*, containing contributions from the Aldine Club, composed of a few of the journalists of Pittsburgh, has been issued. Elsewhere we give a critical selection from the *Casket*. The little brochure is filled with entertaining and well written Christmas stories, and is a pleasant contribution to the current Christmas literature.

....A German coal miner was drowned in the Monongahela, near McKeesport, Wednesday afternoon. He was attempting to cross the river in a skiff, and got out of the boat on to a large cake of ice, with the intention of pushing it out of his way. The ice broke, letting him into the water. His body was recovered shortly after. He leaves a wife and several children.

....Failing to give $2,000 bail yesterday, Wm. McClosky was committed to jail by the Mayor for felonious assault and battery on patrolman James Smith. The latter attempted to arrest McClosky yesterday morning, while he was trying to kick in the door of Martin's saloon, on Wylie avenue, when McClosky attempted to stab him with a knife which he had used a few moments before in chasing a negro.

....John Clark, a citizen of Verona, made an information before Alderman Kreuter, of this city, yesterday, charging Wm. J. Trotter, a member of the borough Council, with becoming security for the borough Treasurer, A. M. Vantine, contrary to an Act of Assembly approved March 30, 1869, which forbids a member of Council from becoming security for a borough officer under a penalty of a fine not exceeding $500. The defendant was this charged on his own recognizance, for a hearing next Thursday.

Marion Harland in her new cook book "Breakfast, Luncheon and Tea," recommends the use of Prepared or Self Raising Flour in preference to Cream of Tartar and Soda or Expensive Baking Powder.

Christmas! Christmas!

Make your dearest friend happy with an elegant Japanese or Parisian Fancy Box filled with Crystallized Foreign Fruits, such as are to be had at the Toy House, 51 Sixth street.

LOCKS AND DAMS.

No Series of Ohio River Obstructions Desired.

Important Joint Meeting of Coal and Steamboat Men—Experimental Dams for the Ohio Condemned—Strong Arguments and Forcible Deductions—The Steubenville and Pittsburgh Bridges Railed Against—A Long but Interesting Report.

A meeting of the Coal Exchange was held yesterday afternoon, at the corner of Market and Water streets, for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee appointed some time ago to investigate and report relative to the practicability of placing locks and dams in the Ohio river as aids to navigation. The meeting was called to order by Captain Blackmore, who moved that John F. Dravo be elected Chairman. The motion was not accepted very graciously by Mr. Dravo, who said that the selection of himself as the presiding officer of the meeting would place him in rather an awkward position. He favored the improvement of the Ohio, while the report to be presented was adverse to it. If it should be made public that he was chairman of the meeting he would be called upon to enter into explanations that would require more time than he had to give them. Notwithstanding his protest the motion was carried. Mr. George T. Miller was also elected Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were then read and approved.

Upon assuming the chair, Mr. Dravo stated in substance what is already noted above, that the meeting was called by the special committee appointed to consider the improvement of the Ohio. Mr. Simpson Horner said an invitation to be present had been extended to Colonel Merrill, who did not be here before January. He had, however, furnished all the information in his possession that was of interest and importance in connection with the projected improvement. Instead of delaying the meeting, the committee deemed it advisable to call it at once.

The members of the Exchange who were present yesterday were Messrs. Simpson, Horner, Col. R. Bruce Negley, Capt. S. Miller, M. Robbins, Captain James Blackmore, Hon. J. K. Moorhead, George Lysle, Capt. J. F. Dravo, George H. Thurston, Mr. Barrett, Hon. B. I. Wood, Jr., Capt. James Wilson, D. Fawcett and Captain Hon. M. G. Cochrane was also an interested listener.

THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Mr. Barrett then read the report of the committee as follows: It opposes the construction of dams in the Ohio on the ground that they would obstruct instead of facilitate navigation.

REPORT

On the Ohio River Navigation by the Committee appointed on that subject at the joint meeting of the Coal Exchange and Steamboat Men's Association, held Friday, December 10, 1875.

The central situation of the Ohio Valley, its great extent, unequaled productiveness, agricultural and mineral, with its noble system of navigable rivers, have occasioned its rapid settlement and consequent social and material progress. Its increase in wealth and population is without a parallel. Great cities, large manufactories, contentable homes and an annual commerce of many hundred millions, attest a prevailing prosperity scarcely to be found elsewhere.

It is not a century since this broad area, now occupied by millions of inhabitants blessed with all the elements of thrift, was clothed with the primitive forest, whose solitudes were only disturbed by the wandering savage. The lines which marked the course of civilization as it slowly possessed and occupying this fair part of creation were drawn by the navigable streams, which, in their natural state, offered to all the material benefits of cheap personal transit, untaxed commerce and easy exchanges of commodities. It is by the same influence that one of the large towns, not only in this valley, but elsewhere, are situated upon the margin of navigable waters, where they may possess the invaluable advantages of water transportation.

INTRODUCTION OF RAILROADS.

Since the introduction of railroads, which dates back but a few years, the question has been raised whether they were not destined to entirely supersede internal navigation. This has been answered by experience, which has proven, beyond controversy, that transportation by water will, in the nature of things ever must remain, cheaper than by any other conceivable means where not obstructed by locks, dams, bridges or other artificial structures impeding the navigation and increasing the cost of transportation. A single example puts this in an unquestionable light.

TOWBOAT AND BARGE SYSTEM OF TRANSPORTATION.

By the towboat and barge system, of such recent origin, which has engaged the most prompt gigantic dimensions under the fostering hands of the Ohio river transporters, freights are carried from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, a distance of one thousand dollar and eighty-four cents per ton, less than one mill per mile, and less than one-tenth the railroad charge for the same distance. In the winter season a reduction has been made from seventy-five cents to twenty-five cents per hundred, on freights between Pittsburgh and St. Louis.

THE SPHERE OF THE RAILROADS.

Railroads, nevertheless, have a wide sphere of usefulness; their trains move with celerity; they are independent in the transit of the seasons, and hence they carry the more precious freights, and monopolize personal travel. Their excellence in these directions has, however, but so diminished the demand for single passenger and freight steamers that but few indeed of that description of boats are to be found on the Ohio, where formerly the shores were lined with them.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION—ITS IMPORTANCE.

It is thus that the natural operations of commerce, the great increase of the trade of the country, and improvements in the methods of transportation, have settled the question as to the best means of deriving the greatest benefits from the generous river that has contributed so materially to the settlement and growth, not only of the Ohio basin, but of the entire vast Valley of the Mississippi. The lowest priced intercourse and the cheapest circulation of commodities constitute one of the all-important economical achievements sought to be accomplished in the present day. The attention of the whole civilized world is drawn to the subject, and our enterprising statesmen are giving it their earnest consideration.

COMBINING TONNAGE IN FLEETS.

In our river system of combining large fleets moved and governed by steamers, an increased speed advance has been made in this direction, and the successful demonstrations presented by them, in connection with the transit of the Atlantic ocean, demonstrate that this system of transportation is the cheapest, and is the true one, far better than any other, to utilize the Ohio navigation.

CHEAPEST TRANSPORTATION IN THE WORLD.

Having thus by a gradual progress, from simple steamers and floating broad-horns, whose freights were always increasingly high-priced, reached through diligent perseverance and large expenditures, the present grand results, in which the cheapest transportation in the world is performed, it behooves the transporters to watch its interests and protect it against invasions and unwarrantable encroachments as well as against tampering experiments, however well meant. The experience of the transporters assures them of the requirements of the navigation, and of the necessity of holding intact all the advantages they now possess.

GREAT THROUGH LINES AND WAY LINES.

Great through lines, as performed by towboats, must, in the nature of things, constitute the great through lines upon the navigation, all attempted improvements of the Ohio should be so contrived as to increase their safety and expedite their voyages. This is undoubtedly the true policy in the management of our attempted river improvements, and nothing of a different character should be permitted to be done in behalf of single freight and passenger steamboats, because railroad competition their occupation in this quarter seems to be nearly gone, their numbers reduced to comparative insignificance, and their numbers diminished to a small fraction of their former multitude. The steamboats of the future no better promise than the way business between the towns and villages along the river shores, and the navigation of the smaller tributaries of the Ohio.

NEW PLAN FOR THE RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

Various plans for improving the Ohio navigation have been proposed, but none of sufficient consequence to justify serious notice, except the one to consist of a series of locks and dams, with adjustable or movable chutes, to which Col. Merrill, the United States Engineer in charge, has called attention and recommended as deserving an experimental dam, with lock and chute, to test its practical operation and ascertain whether it is worthy of adoption. The Commissioners appointed on the improvement of the Ohio by several States bordering the river have also recommended it to the same extent, and Congress last winter appropriated $100,000 for commencing the structure, to finish which is estimated to cost some $976,000 more. It is intended that it shall be built sufficiently near Pittsburgh to raise the water six feet in the harbor, and to hold it at that additional height at all times, but especially in dry seasons when the river is low. This plan would require, according to the calculation of Col. Merrill, thirty-five similar dams and adjuncts between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, together with several below that city to complete the entire Ohio navigation.

THE NEW PLAN CONSIDERED AND REJECTED.

This scheme of so-called improvement, coming from such a respectable quarter, and partially adopted by Congress, has naturally attracted much attention, and employed the anxious thoughts of all interested in the river transportation business. The undersigned have canvassed it with studious care and just conclusions. After thus examining and weighing the subject, they are constrained, with all due respect and deference to the opinion of Col. Merrill, and the corresponding one of the States' Commission, to express their unqualified dissent from the same, and their undoubting belief that this plan, if carried out, would entail ruin and annihilate the entire towing system now working so beneficently upon the Ohio. They are led to this adverse conclusion by various experiences and observations growing out of their business as transporters. Some of these they respectfully submit:

MONONGAHELA NAVIGATION.

1. There are but four locks and dams on the Monongahela which the Ohio transporters have occasion to use; it costs one cent a bushel to pass coal through these, including towage, which sum, be it remembered, is for passing the locks only, from Brownsville down to this city, while it costs no more to transport coal from Pittsburgh to Louisville, a distance of six hundred miles, by the present towing system, notwithstanding the river between the two latter points is already obstructed by bridges, to a very serious extent increasing the cost of transportation as well as the dangers of navigation. At the same rate it would cost eight and three-fourth cents to pass thirty-five dams to Cincinnati; and to get through these and the seven additional proposed dams between Cincinnati and Louisville, making forty-two locks in all, the cost would be 10½ cents per bushel, or $3.15 per ton. It is scarcely necessary to add that the river commerce could not exist under such a heavy imposition.

CHARGES TOO HIGH TO COMPETE WITH RAILROADS.

2. The railroads on the banks of the Monongahela, as far as they extend, carry cheaper than the boats which ply the navigation, or ing to the heavy charges of the latter. If these charges are necessary, they are a striking commentary against slackwater improvements; if they are not necessary, they should, in strict justice and sound policy, be reduced. But we assume them to be correct and as low as can be afforded, on account of the character and consequence of the gentlemen at the head of that improvement.

ITS LIABILITY TO ACCIDENTS.

3. It is further worthy of note that scarcely a year passes without one or more of these dams getting out of order, so as to hinder the navigation for longer or shorter periods. Apply this fact to forty-two locks and dams with complicated chutes, and how irresistible is the inference adverse to them.

EFFECTS OF THE LOCK AT LOUISVILLE.

4. The lock at Louisville affords another illustrative example. When the tows arrive there they have to await their turn, and, it takes from one to two hours to make a single lockage of three leads containing two thousand tons of freight, or 60,000 bushels of coal. At a time of high water, usually very brief, when large shipments are made, there may be fifty towboats with 300 barges and boats in tow at a time, crowding on with two or three hundred thousand tons of freight, compelling an average delay to the tows, in consequence of this lock, of from one to five days. During this delay the heavy expenses of the entire fleet are going on, and it is thus that the loss of time occasions a large part of the expense of transportation. With the same condition as at Louisville now, at forty-two different dams between Pittsburgh and that city, the commerce now carried on by towboat fleets would be entirely interrupted, if not entirely blockaded.

PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT AND TOLLS REDUCED.

This lock, let it be remembered, has been purchased by the Government, and is worked by its agents. A toll of eight cents a ton on the tonnage of every passing craft, with an additional two cents upon steamers and model barges, is charged to keep the work in repair and pay the current expenses. Five cents a ton was the first charge when the Government took possession, but being found inadequate to meet current expenses and repairs, the present rates were established, which costs each towboat with her tow from $600 to $800 a single passage. Twenty-four men, besides four or five mechanics, are required to manage the lock. Is it probable that the proposed new locks, chutes and dams can be operated with fewer men or at less expense? or that an equal charge will not be necessary at each dam? for the whole force will have to be constantly on hand and under pay whether the chutes are up or not. But suppose the necessary charge to be but one-half, or five cents per ton on the tonnage of all passing craft, the passage at this rate through forty-two locks would tax the towing system of navigation upon the Ohio out of existence.

MULTIPLICATION OF TOLLS.

A charge of eight cents per ton on the tonnage of descending fleets coming from, though collected but one way, through forty-two locks, would amount to $3.36 per ton to Louisville, or $2.80 per ton for thirty-five locks to Cincinnati, making fourteen cents per hundred to Cincinnati, or about seventeen cents to Louisville—this too on all ordinary merchandise and freights. On lockage alone, amounts to nearly double the entire freight charges made at present, without counting the expense of frequent detentions and delays at the locks. Put both these expenses together, and they would constitute a burthen that would sink the whole river transportation business.

REMARKS ON THE MOVEABLE CHUTES.

5. It is urged by some inexpert observers, that in high water the dams will be lowered and the tows will pass without hindrance, thus insuring a cheap and unobstructed navigation. This might occur, more or less, in the down-river passage. But most of the difficulties and delays which embarrass the passage at Louisville, would have to be encountered by the outgoing fleets with or without freight, owing to the short duration of the Ohio floods. But even if the water remained high, the upward-bound towboats, with their numerous attachments, could not stand, without great difficulty, the rushing current through the chutes. This supposed high water continuing, would be a source of interference to the returning fleets, usually they would find the chutes raised and the locks their only method of passing the dams. In low water, which it would be when from 300 to 1,000 boats and barges were on their return voyages, using the lock at every dam.

LIABILITY OF LOCKS TO GET OUT OF ORDER.

And then there is not the remotest probability that all these locks would be in order at the same time. Indeed, it is probable that more than three would be no single moment when all of them would be ready for use, and when unprecedented detentions would not arrest every passing craft. To substantiate this we quote from Gen. Weitzell's late annual report upon the improvement of the navigation at the falls of the Ohio river:

SURPLUS FUND.

"Under this head Captain Mackenzie says the following:

"Accidents to gates and machinery are liable to occur at any time, and to provide for such a contingency, as well as repairing the locks, &c., to refit and make repairs, a surplus fund of $30,000 is required.

"I desire to add to this suggestion that it is one of the first importance. If at any time a gate would give way, or the steamer or either of the dredge-boats attached to the service should run immediately or in a few days become practically useless, and the whole commerce of the Western river would be paralyzed, as it would be in case of any serious affair that all chance of it occurring should be guarded against."

Dangers of destructive accidents, which this experienced engineer regards as imminent, and ever liable to happen, to a single lock, are fully multiplied by forty-two in the case of the proposed river improvement, and would require a proportionate surplus fund, or $1,260,000, always on hand, for probable emergencies. Let it be borne in mind, too, that this required surplus fund is called for out of the public treasury, and not from the tolls earned.

DANGERS, ACCIDENTS AND LOSSES OCCASIONED BY BRIDGES.

6. The running of the existing bridges across the Ohio is very much against the running of the contemplated chutes would be. All these structures have to be passed by daylight, owing to the lack of lights and buoys on the river, and notwithstanding the utmost vigilance, a season rarely goes round without disasters by wrecks against the piers of some of the bridges. The railroad bridge at Cincinnati, though it has a channel span of 400 feet, has occasioned some heavy losses, whilst all the others have been more or less fruitful sources of interference. In the downward passage (were the dams built), when it is presumed the chutes would be open, the bridges would be objects to define their locality would be less conspicuous than those that include a navigation with dams, and hence more consequently the chutes would be more difficult to run than the bridges, the width of the passage way being about twice that of the latter. In case of failure of the current by reason of the necessary contraction of the river by the construction of locks, piers and abutments, and the consequent obstructive operations that have been made, it is ascertained that the losses of towboats and barges alone amount to one such towboat every year, and these are mainly occasioned, directly or indirectly, by the bridges, they being an obstruction to the current, endangering the navigation and entailing these large losses upon the river business. The bridge at Steubenville has been most disastrous in its effects being felt in making up tows by the hurry it necessitates and the struggle required to pass it by daylight. Neither could suitable chutes be run save by clear daylight, even in high water; were forty-two of these erected between this point and Louisville, the descent of the tows would be compulsory daylight voyages exclusively, and these liable to be interrupted by fogs and by a thousand other causes, numerous enough to darken the atmosphere.

PROPOSED EXPERIMENTAL DAM.

7. The proposed experimental dam, before referred to, has been viewed with much favor by many of our citizens, under the impression that the proposed water, by facilitating the removal of ponderous articles from place to place about the harbor, would do away with the Coal Exchange. Mr. Hay's carriage on wagons, carts and drays, now in vogue. This, however, would be but a secondary result, should the test prove beneficial, as the question of whether the test will so prove is the sole object of the Government. The subject is an important one, and the people have, by the investment of two millions, vesting a capital of more than $10,000,000, invested in the transportation business upon the Ohio, has a claim for the most thorough and intelligent test of all its bearings. A dam to subserve such a purpose, with the attachments of lock and adjustable, or moveable chute, must be a structure of most extensive, complicated structure, difficult to handle and ever liable to get out of repair. The raising and lowering of the chutes, to pass through the lock, and suddenly drawing off the pool by breakage, or for repairs, would necessarily occasion frequent disastrous rushes of water down the harbor, vary and change the shore lines, so as to render moorings along the shore unsafe, if not utterly untenable. The difficulties of all seriousness and of unjust continuance, cry aloud for speedy removal. The widening of the water-way under this privilege to 500 feet, so as to meet the requirements of the navigation, would save an annual cost in embarrassments, delays and wrecks occasioned by it, of not less than $200,000 a year, which would inure to the benefit of both consumers and producers.

THE HARBOR WIRE BRIDGE.

crossing from Pittsburgh to Birmingham, is the second obstruction calling for immediate displacement and correction. The leading objections to this structure have been before referred to—they are of great magnitude, and cannot be permitted longer to exist, without the grossest disregard of violated rights and ever recurring injuries, public and private. It stands in the midst of the harbor where its narrow spans and low superstructure make it a perpetual obstruction to free passing of water-craft; and in times of high floods so effectually cuts off water communications above and below, that not even the smallest boats can pass. Not a word can be said against the great necessity of relief growing out of this intolerable grievance.

These are both well known evils, inflicting serious injuries, periodically, upon the large ascending and descending commerce of the Ohio—they are inexcusable nuisances, working hurt, inconvenience and damage, whose peremptory abatement is one of the first duties of our constituted authorities.

THE PARKERSBURG BRIDGE CASE.

The case before alluded to, of money paid for the public good by individuals, is the last of the fitting subjects above named for Government appropriations. It occurred in this wise:

In 1870 an advance was made to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, by the transporters of Pittsburgh, to secure a change in the Parkersburg bridge, then in process of erection on a plan that would have utterly arrested the towboat navigation of the Ohio, and involved the Government in a large expenditure for its correction, as its defective plan was authorized by a bad law. This money, $31,586.67, when Congress was not moving, and when no other remedy existed, was advanced in good faith, under the best legal advice, by the transporters, and as it prevented the obstruction at an immense trade, and saved the Government from the charge of altering the bridge, the cash advance constitutes an indisputable claim for reimbursement, which it is unjust and inexcusably negligent to withhold.

These three meritorious objects can be accomplished by appropriations amounting, altogether, to not more than one-half the sum that it would probably cost to build, at the point of our harbor, the proposed experimental dam with its attachments, the committee, therefore, suggest that the remaining half of the million appropriations is a question eminently deserving serious attention.

The committee would lastly recommend to the consideration of the river interests the following resolution passed by the National Board of Steam Navigation at their late meeting in New York. It represents a matter of importance, requiring the action of our transporters:

THE INDIANA CHUTE.

Mr. Pink Varble, of Louisville, offered a resolution, which was read, as follows, viz:

"*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be instructed by this Board to use its influence in Congress to secure an appropriation of $50,000 for the purpose of widening the channel at the head of the falls of the Ohio river, better known as the Indiana chute."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SIMPSON HORNER,
ADDISON LYSLE,
J. A. BLACKMORE,
J. M. SCHOONMAKER,
S. N. O'NEIL,
GEORGE T. MILLER,
HENRY B. HAYS,
Committee.

TIME FOR THOUGHT.

Considerable time was occupied in reading the report, and when over it was followed by discussion on the part of Messrs. Moorhead, Hays, Dravo, Miller, Horner and others. Mr. Dravo suggested that the report lie over for a while, so that parties interested can put it through a process of mental dissection, and offer such suggestions as may occur to them before it is definitely acted upon. He said it would be published in the leading newspapers, and could be laid over until the next meeting. Another gentleman coincided with Mr. Dravo. Some parts of the report needed to be put in shape and presented to Congress at as early a date as possible.

Mr. Miller said the dams should be built according to the plans of Col. Merrill there need be no trouble about the Steubenville bridge. If chutes have to be run the less current the better, and abutments only make it worse. As to navigation the speaker was after and not steam.

TRY IT ELSEWHERE.

Mr. Horner suggested that the experimental dam be tried on navigable rivers which are tributary to the Ohio, and where, in case it should not prove a success, it would not be as much trouble as if located in the Ohio. He named the Big Sandy as a river having a low stage of water where the experiment could be made, and where if not a success the damage would be trifling. Nearly everything undertaken by the Government proves a success, he said, with Davis Island Dam, which took three years to build the dam, and possibly twenty years to remove it. Mr. Horner said that here in Pittsburgh the Government has been for two years at work trying a snag-boat, but it is not finished yet. Government enterprises are different from individual or private enterprises in that it takes a generation to finish them.

Mr. Miller thought that the best building of an experimental dam in any tributary river to see how it would work there would not be a sufficient answer as to whether it would do for the Ohio.

Before referring Dravo's proposal to lay the report over, Mr. Horner said if the object was to get up a public discussion upon it, well enough. As far as the opinion of Col. Merrill is concerned the adoption or rejection of the report would not affect it. He could pass upon it at any time, but it was not probable that his opinion, whatever it might be, would alter the opinion of the engineers of the Coal Exchange. Mr. Horner did not think the report consisted of the absurdities that Gen. Morehead called them. He said they were stubborn facts.

Mr. Hays called loudly for a vote on the adoption or rejection of the report.

KNEW WHEREOF THEY SPOKE.

Mr. O'Neil said that he felt like standing upon the report as presented. He also averred that when it comes to navigating the Ohio river Gen. Moorhead's ideas are impracticable. The gentlemen who prepared the report are practical men. They knew what they were about, and the speaker said he was in favor of either adopting or rejecting it.

When Mr. O'Neil had finished the vote was taken and the report was adopted, there being but one dissenting vote.

Mr. Dravo—I enter my solitary no.

Mr. Horner—You ought to be ashamed of it.

After ordering one thousand copies of the report to be printed in pamphlet form, the meeting adjourned.

TRADESMEN'S INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.

Meeting of the Investigation Committee — Inquiry into the Alleged Frauds.

At the meeting of the committee appointed by the meeting of the life members of the Tradesmen's Industrial Institute (relative to the investigation of the late election held December 15th for Directors), the following members of the Committee were present: Messrs. John Dunlap, James C. Lewis, Bradley C. B. Herron. Mr. James Park being unable to attend, Mr. E. Gregg was appointed in the place by Capt. Batchelor, Chairman of the meeting of life members. Mr. Dunlap being appointed Chairman of the Committee, on motion, C. B. Herron was appointed Secretary. The constitution of the Institute was carefully read and discussed by the Committee, after which the following resolution, offered by Mr. Lewis, was passed:

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to notify (through the papers) the officers of the Institute, the officers of the election and all others interested, to meet with the Committee on Monday, 27th inst., at two P. M., at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, to investigate the alleged irregularities of the late election.

JOHN DUNLAP, Chairman.
C. B. HERRON, Secretary.

EXCITEMENT UNABATED.

The Genuine Mark Down.
The Great Rush Increases.
The Goods More than Substantiate the Facts Advertised.
Undeniable Truth—Positive Facts. Note the Mark Down.

$40 overcoats marked down to $25.
$35 " " " $18.
$30 " " " $15.
$20 " " " $10.
$15 " " " $7.50.
$10 " " " $5.00.

BUSINESS SUITS.

$20 Business Suit marked down to $10.
$18 " " " $8.50.

DRESS SUITS.

$50 Dress Suits marked down to $30.
$35 " " " $18.
$30 " " " $15.

MEN'S PANTALOONS.

$10 Cassimere Pants marked down to $7.
$8 " " " $5.
$7 " " " $4.

BOYS' GOODS.

$15 Boys' Suits marked down to $10.
$12 " " " $7.50.
$10 " " " $5.00.

10 Boys' Overcoats marked down to $5.00.
Good, honest Working Pants at $1.50.
Good honest Evening Pants at $2.00.
Fine Dress Pants made to order at 30 per cent. less than elsewhere. I am submitting these extraordinary sacrifices to the public at the old reliable Big No. 13 Sixth street, late St. Clair. You can save fully one-half your money at T. Tobias'. Open all day Christmas.

Holiday Goods.

Without any puffing or blowing, the most extensive assortment of toy goods to be found in the city is at the wholesale and retail Toy House of J. D. Thompson & Co., Nos. 176 and 178 Wood street. They are part of the old world or the new that has not contributed its quota to help swell the immensity and novelty of the many articles of rare beauty that fill the shelves and counters of this Great Emporium of Novelties.

Gas Portables.

Nothing will make a more useful, as well as ornamental, present than a nice Gas Portable. It is suitable for a lady or gentleman, and is always acceptable. Messrs. J. P. Smith, Son & Co. have a very nice assortment, at very low prices. Their sales-room is located at No. 189 Liberty street, near Sixth street. Open in the evening.

The Wholesale Dealers

Can buy Tropical Fruits, such as Bananas, Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Figs, Dates, Raisins, Currants, Prunes, Prunellas, Leghorn Citrons, Orange and Lemon Peel, &c., &c., at prices that compare favorably with those given by the New York dealers. Kramer & Vogleson, 51 Sixth street.

Receiving Daily, Goods for Gifts.

All the latest novelties in Gents Furnishing Goods for the holidays are being received daily at Phelan's No. 32 Fifth avenue. The rush is even now so great that it requires close attention to keep up the stock, but go early and secure the best goods and extra bargains.

First Water Diamonds.

Merchants and others, will find it to their interest to invest in some of the finest gems ever shown west of New York at Emanuel De Roy's, GAZETTE building.

Happy New Year.—Mince meat prepared by ourselves, and put up in ½, 1 and 2 gallon stone jars expressly for family use. JACOB B. HUBLEY & Co., Library Building, Penn avenue.

All

industrious and economical housewives will appreciate a holiday present, such as a Coal Vase, Fire Irons, Tea Set, or numberless other useful articles for sale by Demmler Bro.'s, 126 and 128 Smithfield street.

THE COURT RECORD.

A Complete Report of the Proceedings in the Courts Yesterday.

U. S. Circuit Court.

(*Before Judge McCandless.*)

Lewis Bernard, bankrupt, Luzerne county. Assignee ordered to pay J. L. Holmes, a creditor, several sums aggregating $2,300.

Ault & Comforth, bankrupts, Warren county. Assignee's report of the sale of certain real estate confirmed *nisi*.

Samuel McBride, bankrupt, Butler county. Petition for discharge presented and final hearing ordered before Register Rogers.

O. F. Sheldon & Co., bankrupts, Crawford county. Petition for discharge presented, and final hearing ordered before Register Woodruff on the 14th prox.

Christopher Rogers, bankrupt, was discharged.

William B. McLean & Co., bankrupts. Hearing on motion for injunction against Willis Boothe et al. continued to 3d prox.

This Court will not be in session again until Monday.

U. S. Circuit Court.

(*Before Judge McKennan.*)

The arguments in the case of W. B. Scaife vs. A. Fulton, Son & Co., and J. B. Sheriff & Sons were concluded, and the decision of the Court reserved.

Common Pleas Court No. 1.

(*Before Judges Stowe and Collier.*)

Arthur Gainsford vs. Painter & Welsh. Still on trial.

Wesley Coulter vs. John Francis, surviving partner of Francis & Johnson. Jury out. Action on a promissory note.

Henry Cronshore vs. D. Chestnut & Co. On trial.

In the matter of the appeal of A. A. Moore's heirs from report of viewers of damages by reason of grading Bedford avenue. The City Clerk ordered to return to Court the record of proceedings in the case.

Trial List for To-day.

Hodgetts vs. Bradstreet et al.
Clarke vs. Valentine et al.
Smithers vs. Bowers.
McCune vs. O'Neill.
McCabe vs. Lockhart.
Rapp vs. Maple.
Petty, adm'x, vs. O'Neill.
Krebs vs. Benny, Jr.
Yant vs. Finney.
Griffith vs. Voight, Mahood & Co.

Common Pleas Court No. 2.

(*Before Judges Ewing and Kirkpatrick.*)

Casper Mueller vs. Peter Schmidt. Verdict for plaintiff for $362.20. Action to recover on account.

The Central Board of Education vs. The German American bank. Verdict for plaintiff for $2,792.57. Action to recover balance of money deposited.

George W. Smith vs. J. H. Lightner, administrator of E. F. Lightner, deceased. Commissioner's report and evidence in the case ordered to be spread at length upon the records of this Court, to be used as evidence in any case at law that may arise between the parties.

Patrick McG